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In Three Volumes
Illustrated

Volume III

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Biographies and Portraits are Arranged in Alphabetical Order, Making an Index Unnecessary

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ADAM ADRION, WIFE, AND DAUGHTER

Butler County—Biographical

Adam Adrion. In the period of more than a quarter of a century, the grocery business owned by Adam Adrion, at Ninth street and Yankee road, Middletown, has grown into what is considered one of the community's commercial necessities. The proprietor of this establishment, now one of the leading and successful men of the community, has built up the business from modest proportions, and has had the necessity of making his own way in the world, having arrived in this city with little save his ambition and his knowledge of a useful trade. He was born in 1857, in Germany, and was but fifteen years of age, a youth with a common school education, when he arrived in the United States. His first place of residence was at Indianapolis, Ind., where he learned the blacksmith business and resided for about three years, then coming to Middletown, which has continued to be his home. For three years after his arrival at Middletown, he worked in the blacksmith shop of Charles Greter, and after leaving his employ was associated for eleven years with Martin Sheets. It had always been Mr. Adrion's ambition to become proprietor of a business of his own, and when he left Mr. Sheets it was to embark in the grocery business, a line with which he had had little experience, but in which he soon showed his worth. His business was founded at the corner of Ninth street and Yankee road, with a small but well-selected stock of staple and fancy groceries. It was several years before he was firmly established as one of the merchants of the community, but this object once attained and the fact recognized by the people, his business began to grow and develop, and under his care and watchful management has continued to do so. This is now one of the most prosperous business stands of its kind in the city and the credit for its well-being all rests with Mr. Adrion, who has never been compelled to call for outside assistance, but he has relied upon his own abilities and resource. In 1880 Mr. Adrion was married to Miss Louise Schulze, daughter of William Schulze, a native of Germany, who immigrated to America at an early age and subsequently came to Middletown, where he was engaged in business until his death. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Adrion: Leona and Herman, who are both now deceased; and Mrs. John T. Williamson, formerly Minnie Adrion, who died September 9, 1919, leaving father, mother, husband and a little daughter, Martha Jane, aged five, to mourn her loss. Mrs. Williamson was an exemplary Christian woman, a devoted daughter, wife and mother and was loved by all who knew her. She was buried from her home, B. J. Brinkema, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Williamson was a most devout member, officiated at the burial and Mrs. Williamson was

laid to rest amid sorrowing family and friends. Mr. Adrion is fraternally affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and the Foresters. He is a Democrat, and he and Mrs. Adrion belong to St. Paul's German church. It was in this church Mrs. Adrion was confirmed and has been a consistent member of it for forty-seven years. Her father, William Schulze, was one of its founders and a member of the choir till his death. Mrs. John T. Williamson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adrion was baptized, confirmed and married in this church.

Perry Akers. One of the most highly honored residents of Butler county of whom this volume furnishes a record is the cordially esteemed Perry Akers, who is now living in honest retirement at Oxford. It can also be truthfully said of him that, during his active career, he was a typical representative of the best and highest class in the agricultural element of the population of the Miami valley. Intelligent, practical, systematic, diligent, persevering and provident in his farming operations, he was absolutely just in his dealings with all who had transactions with him, and his career as a farmer reflected credit upon that vocation. Mr. Akers was born on a farm in Oxford township, Butler county, Ohio, December 31, 1851, a son of James and Hannah (Hansel) Akers, the former a native of Franklin county, Ind., where his family had been pioneers and where for many years they followed the pursuits of the soil as husbandmen. They had four children: Lucinda, Asa, William and James. Hannah (Hansel) Akers was also born in Franklin county, Ind., where her parents had been early settlers, and she had two brothers and three sisters. James Akers was educated in the public schools of Franklin county, Ind., and was reared in Bath township, where he married Miss Hansel. After a few years devoted to farming there they moved to a property situated west of Oxford, in Oxford township, Butler county, and there continued to do general farming and stock raising until they passed away, being laid to their last rest in the vicinity to the north of the College Corner graveyard, in Preble county. Their children were as follows: Mary, who died in Oxford township, was the wife of John Dukes, of Randolph County, Ind., a farmer by vocation; Armanella, who died in infancy; William Riley, who married Emma Van Ausdall, deceased, and resides at College Corner; and Perry. Perry Akers' educational training was confined to the common schools of his native community, and when he laid aside his school books it was to take up the tools and instruments of the home farm, in assisting his father to cultivate the tract and develop the property. At the age of twenty-three years he was united in marriage with Sarah Adeline, daughter of Mahlon Flint, of Union county, Ind., and after their marriage located in that county and engaged in farming. Later he returned to Butler county and bought 105 acres of land in Oxford township, to which he subsequently added fifty-five acres by purchase. He became one of the successful and substantial farmers of his community, but at the time of his retirement sold out and moved to the city of Oxford, where he bought a handsome brick residence at No. 815 S. College avenue, his present home. Mr. and Mrs. Akers have

been the parents of five children: two who died in infancy; Clifford, educated in the public schools, married Edith Bourne of Franklin county, Ind., moved to that community, and died one year later; Wilfred, who taught in the country schools and the Danville Normal school, and died at the age of twenty-six years; Daisy, the wife of Omer Dare, of Franklin county, Ind., with four children, Herbert, Ralph, Melvin and Loren. Herbert Dare married Bessie White, of Franklin county, Ind. Mr. Akers is a Republican and a substantial man of his community. Calmly resting now in the evening of life, he is thrice fortunate in being able to look back upon an honorable and useful career, and, conscious of the affectionate regard of relatives and friends, to gaze forward in serene expectation to the reward of the future.

Ernest J. Alexander has been a resident of Middletown, Butler county, since he was a youth of eighteen years, and as an employee of the American Rolling Mills company he holds a responsible position, that of heater. He is a skilled and valued artisan, with an accurate technical knowledge of the work to which he gives his attention, and he owns and occupies one of the fine modern residences of Middletown, attractively situated at 638 Garfield avenue. Ernest James Alexander was born in Indiana, and is a son of John Jones Alexander and Belle (Wynkoop) Alexander, the latter of whom died, at Middletown, in 1909, and the former of whom still resides in this city, where he is employed by the American Rolling Mills company. John J. Alexander is a native of the state of Virginia, but prior to his removal to Middletown, Ohio, he had been for a number of years a resident of Indiana. His seven children all reside at Middletown, and of the number the eldest is Lena, who is the wife of Clarence Speidel; Ernest J., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Florence is the wife of Harry Moore; Ruth is the wife of James Snody; Elsie is the wife of Albert John; and Clarence is the youngest of the number. Ernest J. Alexander is indebted to the public schools of Indiana for his early educational advantages, and, he was a youth of eighteen years when he became a resident of Middletown, Ohio, where he found employment with the American Rolling Mills company, one of the prominent corporations of the iron and steel manufacturing enterprises in the state of Ohio. His ability has gained him advancement and he is one of its valued employees. In politics he maintains an independent attitude, and both he and his wife hold the faith of the Baptist church. On account of impaired health Mr. Alexander went to the state of Maryland, and there, on the 8th of November, 1891, he wedded Miss Edith Bauckman, daughter of George W. and Mary Catherine (Moran) Bauckman, of Ashburn, Virginia, where they still maintain their home, their children being six in number: Carroll, Thomas, Nettie, Mrs. Harry Cookney; Belle, Mrs. Ernest Trail; Edith, wife of the subject of this review, and Hattie, wife of Elmer Lewis, of Washington, D. C. Mrs. Alexander continued her studies in the public schools of Ashburn, Virginia, until she had been graduated in the high school, and thereafter she pursued a higher course of study in a college at Washington, D. C. She is a popular factor in the social

activities of Middletown and is the gracious chatelaine of the attractive family home. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have four children: Malcolm and Milford (twins), Milan and Olga. It may be stated that the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Alexander served as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war.

Erhard Allen. Since his arrival at Hamilton, Erhard Allen has been identified with several important concerns at this place, the duties of which have been discharged with credit to himself. He is a native of Sweden, born January 8, 1883, a son of Erik Tolf, who died in Sweden, in which country Mr. Allen's mother still makes her home. Erhard Allen was given a good education, both literary and mechanical, in his native land, for after leaving his school books he was trained as a machinist, tool maker and mechanical draughtsman. He was seventeen years of age when he emigrated to the United States and first located in New York city, where he remained for six years during which he was identified with a number of concerns, gradually gaining practical experience in his trade and fitting himself for a career of further advancement. Upon leaving the metropolis, Mr. Allen went to Wisconsin and for the next few years traveled through that state, and eventually came to Ohio and found employment with the National Cash Register company, with which great concern he spent five years. While at Dayton, Mr. Allen was united in marriage with Helen Agnes Grave of that city, and not long after their union came to Hamilton, where he joined the working forces of the Republic Motor Car company. During the period that he remained with that company he received several promotions, finally being made assistant superintendent, a position which he resigned in 1915 to become associated with the Bonham Recorder company, of which firm he is now superintendent. Mr. Allen is a thorough master of his trade in all its particulars and is also possessed of marked executive ability which makes him valuable in the handling of large working forces of men. He is fraternally affiliated with the local lodge of the Order of Elks, and his political support is given to the candidates of the Democratic party.

Leslie Allison, heater at the American Rolling Mills plant at Middletown, has been engaged with this plant ever since he entered upon his independent career. He belongs to the enterprising, progressive class of young men who have made their own way, and has made excellent progress in establishing himself as a substantial citizen of his community. Mr. Allison was born at Portsmouth, Ohio, a son of Henry Allison, who still resides at Cleveland, Ohio, the mother of Mr. Allison also surviving. After attending the public schools of Portsmouth, Leslie Allison took up steel work as his vocation, and in 1912 came to Middletown to accept the position of heater's helper at the plant of the American Rolling Mills company, a post from which he was advanced to heater which position he now holds. He is a reliable, steady and industrious workman, who has the confidence of his employers and the friendship of his fellows. His thrift is evidenced in the ownership of an attractive and comfortable home on Sutphin avenue. In politics he maintains a liberal stand, and he and Mrs. Allison are members of the Methodist church.

September 20, 1911, Mr. Allison married Dora E. Rankin, who was born November 25, 1890, near Paris, Ky., a daughter of Henry and Anna (Hollar) Rankin. There were four other children in the family, namely: Fletcher M., born November 27, 1886; Walter Cray, born March 7, 1893; Georgie, born October 28, 1895; and Russell Harvey, born November 29, 1898. Henry Rankin, who fought as a soldier during the Civil war, died at Millersburg, Ky., March 8, 1902, and following his death the family removed to Portsmouth, Ohio, where the children were reared. Mrs. Rankin still survives and resides at Middletown with her daughter and son-in-law, at the Sutphin avenue home. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Allison: one who died in infancy; and Dorothy Louise, who died when seven months of age.

Clinton Alston, the village blacksmith with a well equipped shop at Symmes Corner, in Fairfield township, Butler county has applied himself so vigorously and with such marked skill to his trade that he ably controls a substantial and profitable business. Mr. Alston is a representative of the third generation of the family in Butler county, and this statement implies that he comes of fine old pioneer stock. He was born in Fairfield township, the place of his birth having been the farm of his father, who long held vantage-place as one of the representative agriculturists of Fairfield township, where he was born and reared, his wife also having been born in Butler county. Clinton Alston, who is associated with his brother Cassius in the blacksmith business, is junior member of the firm, both members of which are skilled artisans and well known and popular citizens. They are sons of M. P. and Elizabeth (Herr) Alston, and grandsons of Wallace Alston and Henry Herr, both of whom were pioneer settlers in this county, whither they came from Pennsylvania. The children of M. P. and Elizabeth Alston are: Montgomery P., a prosperous farmer in Butler county; Cassius, who is a bachelor, and is associated with his brother Clinton in the blacksmith establishment at Symmes Corner; Clinton, the subject of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; and Minnie and Albert. Clinton Alston is indebted to the public schools of Butler county for his education, and as a young man he served a practical apprenticeship to the trade of blacksmith, which has gained him reputation and success in his chosen vocation. He and his brother have been conducting the business for some years, and their prowess as artisans does not obscure their loyalty and liberality as citizens, in which connection it may be stated that during the late World war they gave liberal support to the various agencies that upheld the government in its war activities. The utmost fraternal and business harmony marks the relations of the two brothers, but in politics their are divided in sentiment, Clinton being affiliated with the Republican party and Cassius with the Democratic party. Clinton Alston was united in marriage to Miss Alice Van Natta, who was born and reared in Butler county, and they have two sons: Gordon and Clinton, jr. Gordon was one of the gallant young Americans who went forth as a soldier with the American Expeditionary Force in France, where he was a member of the 83d Division, 322d Field

Artillery, with which he was in the great campaigns and terrific conflicts at Argonne and Chateau Thierry, France.

Henry Anderson is well and favorably known at Middletown, where for some years he has been employed in the plant of the American Rolling mill. He was born at Mount Sterling, Ky., February 23, 1886, a son of Newton Anderson, who still survives and resides at Mount Sterling, where the mother died in 1908. The parents had a family of five sons and three daughters: Henry, of this review; Newton, jr. I, who died as a small lad; James, Lee and Newton, jr. II, residents of Lexington, Ky.; Joseph, of Middletown; Lillie, the wife of Walter Reffitt, of Mount Sterling, Ky.; Rettie, the wife of Herbert Baker, of Kokomo, Ind.; Mollie, the wife of Sim Curran, of Lexington, Ky. Newton Anderson the elder enlisted from Kentucky in the Civil war, through which struggle he fought bravely, receiving his honorable discharge when peace was declared. Henry Anderson was educated in the public schools of Mount Sterling, Ky., where he received the training that fitted him for work at his present vocation. For some years he was variously employed in mills at different places, but eventually settled at Middletown, where he has since been employed as a heater in the American Rolling mill. Mr. Anderson is liberal in his political views and a member of the United Brethren church. He was married August 8, 1907, at Indianapolis, Ind., to Bessie Hamilton, born September 12, 1887, daughter of Andrew and Emma (England) Hamilton, the former of whom still resides at Middletown, while the latter died at this place, June 12, 1907. Mrs. Anderson had two sisters: Maud, who died as the wife of Dee May; and Gay, who is now Mrs. Lee Wolff, of Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have one son, Stanley Woodford Anderson, born June 4, 1908, and now attending the Middletown public schools. A daughter, Gladys May, died at Kokomo, Ind., at the age of sixteen months. The pleasant family home of the Andersons is situated at No. 537-1-2 Young street.

Allen Andrews was born in Delaware county, Ind., August 11, 1849. He was educated in the common schools of that state and at the National Normal at Lebanon, Ohio, and at Liber college, Liber, Ind. When he was eighteen years of age he became a teacher and taught in the common schools and was superintendent of the schools at New Madison and a teacher in the high school at Greenville. He afterwards studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1874 and commenced the practice of law in Greenville, Ohio, the junior member of the firm of Riffel & Andrews. Disposing of his interests in that law firm under a contract not to practice in that county for three years he came to the city of Hamilton in March, 1876, and has been a resident of that city ever since. He was the junior member of the firm of McKemy & Andrews for four years and then a member of the firm of Morey, Andrews & Morey for twenty-two years until the death of the Hon. H. L. Morey dissolved the partnership. Shortly afterwards the partnership of Andrews, Harlan & Andrews was formed and remained in existence until Hon. Walter S. Harlan was elected to the common pleas bench in 1912. Since then the business

has been continued by Andrews & Andrews, a partnership consisting of the subject of this sketch and his two sons, John D. Andrews, who was admitted to the bar in January, 1905, and Allen Andrews, jr., who was admitted to the bar in 1914. Mr. Andrews has devoted his time and talent exclusively to the practive of law for forty-five years and has been connected with much of the important litigations in Butler county and in the adjoining counties and in the Federal court of the Southern District of Ohio. His paternal ancestry came from Scotland and his maternal from Germany. There were five sons in his father's family, three of whom were in the Federal Army of the Civil war, the other two being under the military age; and in the World war, Mr. Andrews had two sons and one son-in-law in the service. In 1879 he married Miss Belle Davis, the daughter of J. P. Davis, a prominent citizen of Hamilton, who died in his ninety-first year in February, 1917. On her mother's side Mrs. Andrews descended from old Revolutionary stock and Thomas Blair, one of the pioneer settlers of Hamilton was her great-great-grandfather. They have five children, all of whom have reached the years of maturity and are now married, besides the two sons associated with him in his business he has one son, Stanley, in the medical profession living in Toledo. His daughter Ruth, lives in Los Angeles, Calif., and is the wife of H. Ellis Reed, who is in the service of the Los Angeles Times and his other daughter, Elizabeth is the wife of J. P. Rogers, who was in the Aviation Service during the war and now resides in Columbus. Mr. Andrews has never served in public life but has taken great interest in politics and public affairs notwithstanding his close application to his professional duties. He is a member of the American and Ohio Bar associations, and was president of the latter in 1911 and 1912. He has found diversion such as he has been able to take outside of his profession in fraternal societies. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity for forty-seven years. Is a thirty-third degree Mason and was Grand Master of the Ohio Masons for two years in 1893 and 1894. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He and his family are members and attendants of the First M. E. church of Hamilton.

Sylvester Andrews. .The annals of Butler county show many records of the lives of farmers who have rounded out the duties connected with agricultural pursuits, and have amassed considerable fortunes gathered from the fertile soil. One who has met with considerable success in this direction, which is well merited, is Sylvester Andrews, who has been a lifelong resident of Milford township, and who was born north of the place he now occupies, September 11, 1846, a son of Felty and Ruth (Jones) Andrews, natives of Columbia, near Cincinnati. The paternal grandparents passed their entire lives near Cincinnati, while the maternal grandparents, Benjamin Jones and his wife, came from Pennsylvania. After their marriage, Felty and Ruth Andrews settled in Butler county, Ohio, on a farm located north of the one on which their son now lives, but in 1859 bought the latter place and there rounded out the remainder of their useful and honorable lives. They were the parents of the

following children: Wesley, deceased, who was a soldier of the Union during the Civil war; Benjamin, a resident of Dayton; Sylvester, of this notice; William, deceased; and Esom, who lives in California. Sylvester Andrews received his education in the country schools of Butler county and was reared on the home farm, where he assisted his father. He was married in 1873 to Lucy, daughter of Jackson and Lucinda Watt, who resided in the same township, and both of whom are now deceased. They were the parents of six children. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews lived west of Oxford on a rented farm for some time, and then moved to the old homestead of 103 acres, which is still their abode. The house in which they make their residence was built by Mr. Andrew's father, but the present owner has made numerous improvements and has installed much new equipment, and the property is now one of the handsome, valuable and productive estates of its part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are highly esteemed in their community for their many excellencies of mind and heart, are faithful members of the Methodist church, and during the war period were generous contributors to the various enterprises which assisted in winning the war. Mr. Andrews is a Democrat, but has never cared for public office, being content to center his activities in his farm and his home, where he finds enjoyment and interest. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Andrews: Clem, Allen, Laura and Irma. Clem, an energetic farmer of Butler county, married Irma Wright, of Portsmouth, Ohio, and they have two children, Donald and Grace; Allen, who went with the American Expeditionary Forces to France, where he served with the hospital corps until his return to the United States in 1919; Laura married Fred Hewitt, a contractor of Butler county, and has two children, Lucy and Treva; and Irma married George Moss, of Richmond, Ind., and has one child—Louise.

Albert Handon Antrobus, son of John Butler Antrobus, was born near Falmouth, Ky., June 26, 1857. His father, whose paternal ancestors were from France and England, was a native of Virginia but early settled in Kentucky and followed the vocation of cooper and firmer. While working on a house in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1882, he fell therefrom, sustaining injuries which caused his death. His mother died in 1878. There were twelve children in the family: Samuel, deceased; James, now living in Georgetown, Ky.; George, in Pan Handle, Texas; Jefferson Coleman, in Falmouth, Ky.; Jane, deceased; Elizabeth, in Cincinnati; Nancy, in Illinois; Catharine, in Falmouth, Ky.; Ann, deceased; Hattie, deceased; Sallie, in Cincinnati; and Albert Handon, the subject of this sketch, who married Miss Mattie Courtney, daughter of J. and Martha (Bishop) Courtney. To this couple were born nine children: Grover; Clarence, died December 6, 1916; Clara Bell, and Ella, died in infancy; Lillian, Mrs. John Lawrence; Mabel, Mrs. Jacob Root; Harry, Nellie and Catharine. The deaths from influenza, November, 1919, of the eight-months-old twin babies of Mrs. John Lawrence darkened with grief the home of the grandparents. Mr. Antrobus is possessed of executive ability and is an energetic worker along many

lines. He organized a Baptist church, starting with fourteen members in his old home-town in Kentucky and still retains his membership there. His son, Harry, a most estimable young man, belongs to the Nazarene church and takes a very active part in church work. Mr. Antrobus is a contractor and with his family lives in his own comfortable home on Lefferson street, Middletown, Ohio. In politics he is a Democrat.

A. J. Antrobus. The contribution of A. J. Antrobus to the development of Butler county has included the clearing of a fine farm and the development of a valuable property. When he arrived in this county, the land was covered with timber, but the passing of twelve years has seen great changes take place in this part of the Miami valley, and the Antrobus farm is now one of the highly developed and valuable tracts of the locality. Mr. Antrobus was born February 25, 1866, in Pendleton county, Ky., a son of Samuel L. and Susan Millie (Luckett) Antrobus. The family originated in England, whence the paternal great-grandfather came to this country at an early day, taking up his residence among the pioneers of Kentucky. In that state was born John Antrobus, the grandfather of A. J., who followed carpentry and contracting all his life in the Blue Grass region. Samuel L. Antrobus was also born in Kentucky, and as a young man adopted the vocation of cooper, to which business he devoted the active years of his life, never leaving his native state. He was a man of industry and integrity, and one who possessed in full degree the esteem and confidence of his fellows. His wife, one year his junior, was born in 1840, in Kentucky, to which state her father, William Luckett, had journeyed at an early date from Maryland. The boyhood and youth of A. J. Antrobus were passed in Kentucky, where he attended the district schools and grew up in a rural community in which the chief occupation was farming. This fact probably decided his career, and although his father and grandfather before him had been artisans, following established trades all their lives, he chose for his lifework the tilling of the soil and his attention has been devoted thereto throughout his career. In 1907 Mr. Antrobus removed from Kentucky to Butler county and bought a tract of land on the Franklin road. Timber covered a part of this section, even at that late date, but Mr. Antrobus, ambitious and energetic, cleared the wooded portion and soon had the entire property under a high state of cultivation. While in a broad sense he may be termed a general farmer, most of his interest centers in tobacco growing, a field in which he has won marked and indisputed success. His property has been improved by the erection of substantial buildings and the installment of modern improvements, and he is looked upon as being up-to-date in every respect. Mr. Antrobus was married in 1896 to Miss Viva Courtney, daughter of William and Clara (Phillips) Courtney, natives of Kentucky, and to this union there have been born three children: Mattie, who is now Mrs. Carl McGraw; and Alma and Frank, who reside with their parents. Mr. Antrobus is a member of the local lodge of the I. O. O. F., and is popular among his fellow-members. He and his family belong to the Nazarene church, and he has always been liberal in his contribu-

tions to worthy causes, civic, educational or religious. His political beliefs cause him to support the Democratic party.

Valentine Apple. That the occupation of farming can be made one of the most agreeable and satisfying vocations known, that industry, good management and persistent combine to result in the attainment of one's ambitions, and that straightforward dealing and integrity are among the most valuable of human assets, are facts exemplified in the life of Valentine Apple, whose career has been identified with Butler county for twenty-eight years, and who, as a farmer and good citizen, has exerted a splendid influence in the development of his community. Mr. Apple was born near Farmersville, Montgomery county, Ohio, December 16, 1868, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Stacksbarger) Apple, the former a native of Montgomery county and the latter of Maryland. They were married in Montgomery county, where they followed agricultural pursuits for a long period, but eventually moved to Warren county, settling one and one-half miles west of Franklin, where Mrs. Apple died in 1890, aged sixty-eight years, and Mr. Apple in 1899, when seventy-one years of age. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church, were highly respected in the communities in which they resided, and were the parents of fifteen children. Valentine Apple was given only a limited education in the district schools of his native locality. His boyhood and youth were filled with hard work, as he labored on the home place until he was twenty-two years of age. At that time he was married, and one year later removed to his present farm, in Lemon township, Butler county, known as the Reed place, a tract of ninety-three acres. On this he has since erected all the buildings, and made many valuable improvements, including the installation of 1,500 rods of tile. He has seen the district rise from somewhat primitive conditions to wonderful prosperity; has seen homes established and their owners pass beyond the ken of those who knew them; and has witnessed the departure of the old-time implements and the installment of those which obliterate the grinding drudgery of an earlier day. He is a skilled and extensive breeder of Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle, and also raises many horses for general purposes. His crops consist of all kinds of grain. True to the traditions of his family, Mr. Apple is a Democrat, but has never asked for any office or preferment at the hands of either his party or his fellow-citizens. With his family, he belongs to the United Presbyterian church, at Monroe. During his active career Mr. Apple has lived close to high ideals, and his citizenship has imparted strength and substantiality to all undertakings in which his ability and worth have been enlisted. He was married in 1890 to Miss Lona Mullendore, of Preble county, O., who died five years later, leaving two children: Harold, chief clerk of the Big Four railroad freight offices, who married Lillian Schroeder and has one daughter; and Lona, a graduate of the Gratis High school and a teacher before her marriage to A. Brubaker, of Preble county. Mr. Apple's second marriage was to May Coover, of Montgomery county, daughter of Samuel and Laura Coover, of that county. Mr. Coover was a miller, and both he and his wife are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs.

Apple there have been born two children: Arthur C. and Harvey, both graduates of the Monroe High school. Arthur after completing his studies remained at home assisting his father, while Harvey became a student at Muskingum college. Mr. Apple has supported in a practical manner all educational and worthy civic enterprises.

Leander Ardery as a farmer, citizen and business man stands high in the respect of the citizens of Oxford township, where he has resided for a quarter of a century. He was born on a farm in Franklin county, Ind., October 14, 1854, a son of James and Margaret (Goff) Ardery, natives of the same county. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Ardery were pioneers of that region, and his paternal ancestors, natives of Kentucky, also went to the Hoosier state at an early day. James B. Goff, an uncle of Mr. Ardery, fought as a soldier of the Union during the war between the states, and was a member of an Indiana Regiment of Volunteer Infantry. James and Margaret (Goff) Ardery resided on the old Goff place in Franklin county for nine years after their marriage, and then moved to Union county, in the same state, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away in 1895 and the father four years later. They were the parents of the following children: John, deceased; Leander; James; Albert; Anna, deceased; C. E.; Mary A., deceased; Laura; W. F. and O. M. Leander Ardery was educated in the public schools of Bath township, Franklin county, Ind., and in Union county, and in the latter community grew to stalwart manhood as a farmer's son. He was married there in 1890 to Alice, daughter of David B. and Martha (Haskell) Howarth, of Union county, the latter of whom belonged to one of the pioneer families of Cincinnati, the Haskells, who came originally from Massachusetts. David B. and Martha A. Howarth were the parents of the following children: Henry E., Eliza Ann, William, Alice B., Josie M., Charles E. and Daisy. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Leander Ardery lived on the farm of Mr. Howarth, near Cottage Grove, for five years, and in 1894 purchased their present place, a tract of 101 acres lying in Oxford township. Here Mr. Ardery has made numerous improvements, including the erection of substantial and modern buildings and the installing of modern machinery and the latest conveniences. Modern in his views, and energetic and capable in his operations, Mr. Ardery has brought good judgment into play in the management of his property. He is one of the public-spirited men of his locality, and no worthy movement passes him by, as was shown during the period of the great World war when he was a generous contributor to the various war activities. He and his wife are the parents of one son, Edward G., born in 1900, who is a graduate of high school and his father's capable assistant on the home place.

Andrew J. Arent, a prominent carpenter contractor of Hamilton whose good workmanship has contributed to the city's architectural attractiveness, was born at Hamilton, Ohio, January 31, 1866, a son of Mathias and Mary Arent, both of whom are now deceased. His father was born in the east and there educated, and as a youth learned the trade of carpentry, which he followed at Jacksonboro, Butler county, to which place he removed in young manhood. There

he was married, his wife being a native of the state of New York, and subsequently they came to Hamilton, where Mathias Arent developed into a carpenter contractor and lumber dealer, business ventures with which he was successfully identified until his death. Of his eight children, three sons and one daughter survive: Jean, a contractor of Hamilton, who married Belle Wamsley and has two children; Mathias, of Hamilton, who married Christine McGehan; Annie, of Canada, the widow of Philip Stillwaugh; and Andrew J. Andrew J. Arent was educated in the graded schools of Hamilton and was well trained in the trade of carpentry under the skilled and capable preceptorship of his father. He continued to work in association with the elder man until 1907, at which time he formed a partnership with his brother, Jean, in the contracting and lumber business. In 1911 Andrew J. Arent sold his interest in the lumber enterprise to his brother, and since that time has continued alone as a contractor. He has built up an excellent business and has taken his place as one of the leaders in his field at Hamilton. Mr. Arent was married in 1886 to Miss Kate Fath, daughter of Jacob and Anna Fath, early residents of Hamilton, and they became the parents of seven children: Van Lou, formerly in the carpenter business, and a member of the Loyal Order of Moose and the Modern Woodmen of America, who died at Hamilton at the age of thirty-one years, leaving a widow and four children; Vernon, thirty years of age, educated in the public schools, learned the machinist's trade and is now a draughtsman and superintendent at the Cullen & Vaughn Planing mills, resides at Hamilton and is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, married Hilda Alexander, and has two children; Murray, aged twenty-eight years, educated in the public schools, learned the carpenter trade under his father and worked with him until December 11, 1917, when he enlisted in the Motor Mechanics Signal Corps, later was transferred to the Air Service Mechanics, and after about two months of intensive training in this country was sent across the Atlantic, to France; Naomi, a high school graduate, who is unmarried and resides with her parents; Orville, aged twenty-two years, a high school graduate, who is engaged in the automobile business; and Carol, aged nineteen years, and Olive, aged sixteen years, high school graduates, who reside with their parents. After his first marriage, Mr. Arent built his first home at No. 220 Wayne avenue, but subsequently built another at No. 711 Ross avenue, into which he moved, this being followed by homes at No. 709 Ross avenue and No. 219 North C street. The present home, at No. 825 Park avenue, was erected by Mr. Arent. He is a member of the lodges of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and the members of his family belong to the Baptist church.

Jean Arent. General contracting and building interests at Hamilton, Ohio, have a skilled and progressive representative in the person of Jean Arent, who belongs to a family the members of which have long been prominent in this connection, and whose own contributions to the upbuilding of his native city have been important. Mr. Arent was born at Hamilton, February 28, 1876, a son of Mathias

and Mary Arent, both of whom have now passed away. Mathias Arent was a native of the East, where he was reared and received an ordinary education, and as a young man came to Jacksonboro, Butler county, Ohio, where he followed the vocation of a carpenter, having learned that trade in his youth. At New Brunswick, New Jersey, he met and was married to a young lady who had been born and reared in that state, and not long thereafter the young couple came to Hamilton, where they spent the remaining years of their lives. Mathias Arent developed a good business as a carpenter contractor and also dealt in lumber and became one of Hamilton's substantial citizens. He and his wife became the parents of eight children, of whom four survive: Jean; Mathias, of Hamilton, who married Christine McGehan; Annie, of Canada, the widow of Philip Stillwaugh; and Andrew J., a carpenter contractor of Hamilton, who married Kate Fath, and has seven children. Jean Arent was educated in the graded schools, and upon reaching years of maturity chose his father's vocation as his own. He learned the trade of carpenter under the elder man, and worked at it until 1907, in which year he and his brother Andrew J. embarked in business as their father's successors, engaging both in carpenter contracting and in the lumber business. Later Jean Arent bought the lumber interests from Andrew J. and carried on the business until 1911, when he sold out and again established himself in the carpenter contracting business. In 1915 Mr. Arent went to Los Angeles, Cal., where he became associated with the New York Motion Picture corporation, as superintendent of building construction. This contract was in connection with the erection of the buildings used in photographing the motion picture plays for future presentation on the screen, and entailed wide and diversified knowledge and constant and unremitting labor, as the company's "studio" covered some twenty-two acres of ground. While there Mr. Arent erected a two-story home of his own, but in April, 1916, resigned his position, sold his residence and returned to Hamilton, where he built his present artistically designed residence at No. 20 Elvin avenue. Mr. Arent is one of Hamilton's self-made men and has gained what he at present owns solely through the medium of his own efforts. He has been face to face with discouraging conditions in his career notably during the flood of 1913 when he lost about $8,000 in property, but at no time has he lost faith in his own ability, and this confidence he has imparted to those who have been associated with him in any business transactions, whether as business associates or as customers. His contracts are now all of large and important proportions and he is recognized as one of the leading operators in his field. Mr. Arent was married December 20, 1910, to Miss Belle Wamsley, daughter of George and Lydia (Gebhart) Wamsley, of Indiana. To this union there have been born two children: Helen, aged seven years, and now attending the Hamilton graded schools; and Herbert, aged three years. Mr. Arent has a number of business connections, is popular in club life, and as a good citizen has allied himself with movements that have had the welfare and advancement of Hamilton and its citizens as their object.

Martin Arnold. Steady application to the development of an idea has been the medium through which Martin Arnold has advanced himself from the position of employee to that of employer and which has brought him into possession of one of the best-paying and most important enterprises of its kind at Hamilton. As a plumbing contractor he now controls a large number of important projects, and has established a permanent place for himself in business circles through his energetic, progressive and industrious application to his enterprise. Mr. Arnold was born at St. Martin, Brown county, Ohio, in 1882, and received his early education in the public schools of that place, later attending St. Mary's institute, at Dayton. When he left school he secured a position as clerk, and after several years became connected with the Pettibone Manufacturing company, of Cincinnati, a concern with which he remained for two years. About this time Mr. Arnold decided that he was not making as rapid advancement as he should and decided that what he needed was the knowledge of a useful trade. Accordingly, he became a helper with the concern of William Donahue & Company, of Cincinnati, where he remained several years, then coming to Hamilton, where he first worked with Lou Schaub and later with L. Bertscher. In 1909 Mr. Arnold embarked in business on his own account, and from that time to the present his career has been one of constantly increasing success. He is now the proprietor of an establishment on East avenue, where he receives contracts for plumbing to be done in all parts of the country, for his work is not localized merely to the confines of Hamilton, but has spread and extended all over the surrounding country as the quality and expedition of his service have been recognized and appreciated. He bears an excellent reputation in business circles, where he is known as a man who keeps his engagements and contracts to the letter. In his political tendencies he is a Democrat, but is inclined to be independent in his actions. With his family he belongs to St. Stephen's Catholic church, and his fraternal affiliation is with the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Arnold married Miss Jeannette Meyers, and they have two children: Betty Jane and Martin jr.

Albert Auberle, son of August Auberle, was born in McKeesport, Pa., where his parents passed the years of useful and well-spent lives, the father dying December 24, 1908 and the mother January 15, 1912. Thirteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Auberle, and a rather unusual condition obtains in that all reached maturity and were engaged in active pursuits: Augusta, Mrs. W. Wyer, at McKeesport; Barbara, Mrs. C. Callahan, at McKeesport; Joseph, at McKeesport; William, at McKeesport; Fred, at Woodlawn, Pa.; Cleos, at New Castle, Pa.; August, at Parkersburg, W. Va.; Bibianna Mains, at McKeesport; Leopold, John, Otmar, Mary, deceased; Albert, the subject of this sketch, has been a resident of Middletown since 1911, when he came from Newport, Ky., to take a position as roller with the American Rolling Mill company. Thirty-two years ago, in Pennsylvania, he married Miss Nancy Jane Dodds, daughter of James and Abigail (Sarver) Dodds, whose parents came from Iowa. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Auberle:

Ethel, deceased; Herbert, deceased; Frank, now in Middletown; Floyd, now a doctor practicing in the west. In the death of Herbert at Cincinnati by drowning, July 1, 1911, a great sorrow which has not yet been entirely dispelled, settled upon the home. Frank heard the call of his country and enlisted August 5, 1918, with the Marines. He was at Paris Island, S. C., and Quantico, Va., until February 11, 1919, when he was discharged. Dr. Floyd is a graduate of the Middletown High school and the Kirksville School of Osteopathy. He is the youngest student ever graduated from that institution. After graduation, he enlisted March 9, 1918, with the Medical Corps and August 8, 1918, sailed for overseas duty in Germany. He received his discharge July 5, 1919. Mr. Auberle has built a beautiful house in the Highlands in Middletown, where the family finds pleasure and happiness in the comforts of a well-ordered home. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and in politics is liberal.

Charles A. Aufranc, farmer, stockman and dairyman of Union township, and president of the Butler county board of education, was born in the township in which he now resides, February 8, 1875, a son of Augustus and Caroline (Daniels) Aufranc. Augustus Aufranc was one of the most prominent stockmen in Ohio during his day. A breeder of English Coach horses and Jersey thoroughbred cattle, he was also a charter member of the Poland China Record association, and served efficiently as judge at all stock fairs held within a radius of many miles of his Butler county home. He was a man of the highest honor and integrity and was universally respected and esteemed by the many who had the pleasure of coming in contact with him. Charles A. Aufranc received his education in the public schools of Union township and grew up on the home farm, where he came under the instruction of his father. It was but natural that he should assimilate the elder man's knowledge of live stock, and all his life he has been attracted thereto and has been accounted an authority upon cattle, horses and hogs. He remained as an associate of his father until the time of his marriage, when he embarked upon an agricultural venture of his own, locating on a farm of forty-two acres which he had purchased near West Chester. This he has since increased to sixty-two acres, and on it has made numerous improvements of a modern character. While he carries on general farming, he is best known as a breeder of thoroughbred spotted Poland China hogs, and feeds about 100 of these animals annually. His success has been well-merited, as he has been a hard and energetic worker, and has applied his knowledge intelligently in the promoting of his business interests. In 1903, Mr. Aufranc was united in Marriage with Rosa, daughter of Mahlon and Hattie (Jones) Conover, and to this union there have been born two children: Garrett and Beulah. For a number of years Mr. Aufranc has interested himself in educational matters, and much of the credit for the high standard of the Butler county schools is due to his efforts. After serving eleven years as president of the local board of education in Union township, he was made vice-president of the Butler County Board of Education, and from that post advanced to the presidency, which he now occupies. Politically he prefers to

vote independently and will not allow himself to be confined by party lines. He is fraternally affiliated with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, of which he is a member of the council, and his religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is president of the official board of trustees.

William H. Aufranc, proprietor of the Homestead Stock farm, situated in Union township, Butler county, bears a family name that has been held in high esteem in this section for many years. The family was established here by his grandfather, his father, the late Augustus Aufranc, being then a young man. William H. Aufranc was born in Union township, December 27, 1887, son of Augustus and Caroline (Daniel) Aufranc, both of whom were born in Hamilton county, Ohio. The father grew to manhood on the homestead of his father and passed his life here, his death occurring May 13, 1913. He was an extensive farmer and a pioneer in the thoroughbred stock industry, Butler county being much indebted to him for efforts to raise stock standards. He was an upright, worthy man in every relation of life and his death was a loss to Butler county. The mother of William H. Aufranc survives and is a member of his household. Of the family of five children there are four living, namely: Luella, Mertie, Charles and William H. With his brother and sisters, William H. Aufranc attended the public schools of Union township. While many other youths of the neighborhood made plans for the future that would take them to town or city, William H. had no such ambition, always finding enough to hold his interest on his father's farm and was his most useful assistant until the father's death. By that time he was qualified for the responsibilities that fell upon him in taking over the farm of 111 acres and continuing the industries that have made the Homestead Stock farm known all over Ohio. In addition to general farming he breeds Shropshire Down sheep and big type Poland China hogs, all thoroughbred, and through experience and success has become an authority on stock although yet a young man. November 8, 1911, he married Miss Martha Muchmore, and they have one child, Myron Augustus. Mr. and Mrs. Aufranc are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Tylerville, of which he is a trustee, and formerly was superintendent of the Sunday school. Fraternally he is a Blue Lodge Mason, and politically has always cast his vote with the Republican party.

August K. Augspurger. The substantial element of the business citizenship of Trenton, Ohio, has a capable and worthy representative in the person of August K. Augspurger who has been identified with the business interests of the village since 1900, and is recognized as one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of the community. He was born on a farm in Madison township, Butler county, May 8, 1865, a son of Moses and Fannie (Kinsinger) Augspurger, the former a native of near Seven Mile, Ohio, and the latter of Baden, Germany. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Augspurger, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, emigrated to the United States as a young man and settled first at Seven Mile, but in later years moved to south of Trenton, where he engaged in farming and

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also operated a distillery. He was the father of the following children: David, Moses, Catherine, now Mrs. Peter Imhoff,and Josephine, now Mrs. Joseph Meyers. Moses Augspurger received a country school education, and as a young man applied his energies to the vocation of agriculture, an occupation which interested his best efforts until the death of his second wife, at which time he retired from active affairs and removed to Trenton, where his death occurred in November, 1906. His first wife bore the name of Fannie Fry, and they were the parents of four children: Moses; Jacob, deceased; Joseph; and John, deceased. Joseph is a resident of Trenton, and Moses lives in Idaho. After the death of his first wife Mr. Augspurger married Fannie Kinsinger, and they became the parents of two children: Catherine and August K., the former of whom is single and makes her home at Trenton. The parents of these children were all members of the Mennonite faith. August K. Augspurger is indebted to the public schools of Madison township for his educational instruction and to the home farm for his vocational training. After he had laid aside his school books he turned his attention unreservedly to farming, which he continued until 1900, at that time embarking in commercial affairs as the proprietor of a hardware store at Trenton, which he still conducts. In 1912 he associated himself with the Trenton Grain & Coal company, of which he is president and manager. In the meantime, he has interested himself also in financial affairs, and in the capacity of vice-president lends strength and individual ability and industry to the affairs of the Bank of Trenton. In 1915 Mr. Augspurger organized the Miami Valley Real Estate agency, of which he is president, and is conducting an extensive business in this field of activity. Although essentially a business man, he has not given up his interest in agricultural affairs, as he is still the owner of eighty acres of land, highly cultivated and very valuable, the old home place which lies one mile south of Trenton. While he is not a public man or politician, he is a good citizen, conversant with all leading topics of the day, and a supporter of worthy movements, as was shown during the great war, when he contributed generously. Mr. Augspurger was married in 1891 to Ida E., daughter of Joseph and Helen (Kennel) Kinsinger, of Madison township, Butler county, and they are the parents of one son: Herbert J., born October 14, 1894, who is a graduate of high school and his father's capable and enterprising assistant. The elder Augspurger is a thirty-second degree Mason and is popular in the various branches of his order. With his wife and son, he belongs to the Mennonite church.

Julius Bachmann. As a resident of Middletown for a period of thirty-seven years, Julius Bachmann was successful in business matters and in the making of many warm friendships, and in the evening of life had much to look at in retrospect, over the years of a prosperous career. Mr. Bachmann, now deceased October 21, 1919, was born in Germany, in 1846, and there received his education in the public schools. With the idea of preparing himself for competition in the business world, he learned the business of brewing, and

when he came to the United States, in September, 1867, having just passed his majority, he was fully skilled in his art and had no trouble in finding employment at Baltimore, where he remained for three years. In 1870 he removed to Cincinnati, where he continued to work at the brewing business and which was his home until May, 1882, the date that noted his advent in Middletown. Upon his arrival here he entered the employ of the Seybold Brewing company, but after four years decided to embark in business on his own account, and accordingly opened a retail liquor establishment, secured the agency for the Lion brand of beer. He also retailed wines, liquors and cigars and conducted his establishment upon straightforward business methods and had a well equipped house. He was an affable, genial man, courteous and obliging, and never had trouble in making friends or in keeping them. At Cincinnati, in 1872, Mr. Bachmann was united in marriage with Miss Helena Koepff, daughter of George Frederick and Dorothea (Noldna) Koepff, natives of Germany. On coming to the United States Mr. Koepff first settled in business at Indianapolis, Ind., where he opened a large pork packing plant, but later went to Cincinnati, where he embarked in the brush manufacturing business, with which he continued to be identified until his death. While a very young woman, residing at Cincinnati, Mrs. Bachmann had the distinction and privilege of meeting President Abraham Lincoln on two occasions. To Mr. and Mrs. Bachmann the following children were born: Ferdinand Lewis; Helen Christina; August; Julius, who is deceased; Dora, now Mrs. C. Miller, of Kokomo, Ind.; Elsie Minnie, now Mrs. Frank Simpson; Koepff Harrison, of Cambridge, Ind.; and John George Garfield, who crossed the seas to France with the American army. Mr. Bachmann was well known fraternally, belonging to Schiller Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Cincinnati; Middletown Lodge, No. 528, of the order of Eagles; the Improved Order of Red Men; and Haymakers, and was, with Mrs. Bachmann, an attendant at the St. Paul's church. Politically he supported the principles of the Republican party and was quite influential in his community, but this was extended to his friends and never exerted in his personal behalf. His support was never withheld from worthy movements and he was always an advocate of progressiveness in civic enterprises.

Harry R. Bacon, who owns and operates a modern and sanitary bakery at 29½ High street, Hamilton, Ohio, is one of the business men of Butler county who is deserving of special commendation, for in spite of losses and obstacles which would have utterly discouraged the average man, he has gone steadily ahead and today is on the road leading towards a prosperity greater than that which he lost through misfortunes not of his own causing. Mr. Bacon was born at Oxford, Ohio, September 22, 1871, a son of Mahlon P. and Catherine (Fowler) Bacon. The paternal grandfather was born in England, but came to the United States, and located in Maryland, when still a lad. His educational training was confined to that offered by the common schools of his day and neighborhood, and he early became self-supporting, working first at logging, and later at farming.

He later moved to Oxford, Ohio, and was interested there in logging and farming until his retirement. His death occurred in 1875, when he had reached the unusual age of ninety-four years. The paternal grandmother bore the maiden name of Mary Cameron, and she was born in Scotland. There were nine children in the grandparents' family, all of whom are now deceased. Mahlon P. Bacon was born at Oxford, Ohio, February 5, 1822, and after he completed his attendance at the common schools of his locality, he embarked in farming, and was so engaged in Oxford township, until he attained his majority, when he bought a farm of his own, married a Philadelphia lady, Catherine Fowler, and settled down on his property. For one term he served as trustee of Oxford township, being elected on the Republican ticket, and he always gave the candidates of that party a faithful support. He and his wife had the following children: George, who married Mary Lintner, they have five children and own a farm at Somerville, Ohio; Edward, who married Anna Spivey, is in a transfer business at Lindenwald, Ohio; Frank, who married Bridget Leonard, has eleven children, and is a general contractor of East Hamilton, Ohio; John, who married Mary Withrow, has six children, and is engaged in farming near Somerville, Ohio; Sadie, who married S. M. Holbrook, is now a widow and lives at San Francisco, Cal.; Stella, who married Thomas Hicks, has no children, and lives at Louisville, Ky.; and Harry R., who was the fifth in order of birth. Harry R. Bacon attended the common schools of Oxford, Ohio, and for two years the Jacksonboro High school, having for a fellow student a lad who afterwards became governor of Ohio, James Cox. After leaving school, Harry R. Bacon was engaged in farming near Seven Mile, Ohio, until he reached the age of twenty-three years, when he moved to Hamilton, Ohio, and was in a bicycle business for three years. In 1897, Mr. Bacon began canvassing from house to house for orders for a tea, coffee and extract house, and not only was very successful in his work, but learned the business so thoroughly and the requirements of the trade, coming as he did in direct contact with it, that in 1900, he opened a store of his own, on Front and High streets, Hamilton, Ohio. The knowledge and experience he had gained as a solicitor stood him in such good stead, that by 1913 he had branched out to such an extent that he had four tea and coffee stores, one bakery, and owned three lots, two residences and one stable. All of his holdings were entirely wiped out by the destructive flood of 1913, his loss amounting to $20,000.00. As though this were not enough discouragement, hardly had Mr. Bacon begun to get upon his feet, than on Christmas night, 1913, he suffered another loss, this time from fire, his bakery and the stable in the rear, together with four horses in the stable were burned, and he was only partly protected by insurance. Once more Mr. Bacon began at the bottom and worked his way up, and his efforts were rewarded, so that in May, 1918, he was able to open his new bakery at 29½ High street, where he has since continued. In 1896 Mr. Bacon was united in marriage with the daughter of Jacob and Magdelena Young, natives of Germany and Cincinnati, Ohio, respectively. Jacob Young came to the United States

in 1855, and lived for a time at Chicago, Ill. When he was forty-five years old, he was married, and they later moved to Hamlton, Ohio. They had five children born to them, of whom two now survive, one being Mrs. Bacon, and the other, Mrs. Anna Johnson, who lives in Hamilton. One daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bacon, Fern Catherine, in 1897, on October 27, the same day of the month as Theodore Roosevelt, a fact of which the young lady is very proud. She is exceptionally gifted, her high soprano voice gaining for her the title of Hamilton's "sweetest singer." She was graduated from the Notre Dame Academy at the age of sixteen years, one year earlier than the usual course allows, on account of her hard work and exceptional capabilities. At the time of her graduation, she was awarded a silver medal on account of her progress in music, and she is an accomplished pianist, while her voice, of exceptional tone and quality, is still being carefully trained. The fame of this beautiful voice is not a local one, and those who understand its value from a professional standpoint, predict a wonderful future for this gifted girl in the musical world. During the administration of Mayor Fred A. Hinkle, Mr. Bacon served as a member of the civil service commission, and was a careful and efficient official. His fraternal affiliations are with the Elks, Moose and Foresters. Mr. Bacon is well known as one who has always been alert and vigilant in behalf of his customers, and served them so well that they have ever been ready to follow him in his undertakings, and render him support when he met with those overwhelming losses, from which he is now recovering through his praiseworthy exertions.

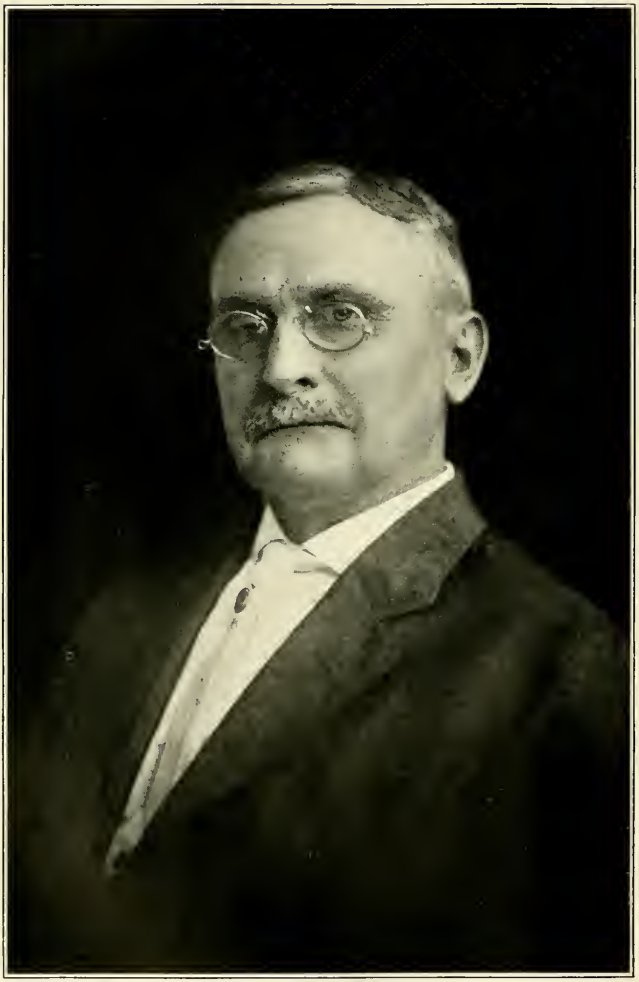
John Bailey. While many years have passed since the death of John Bailey, mention is due his memory, as he had been one of the early residents and highly respected citizens of Preble county, where for some years, prior to his early demise in 1875, he had been engaged in agricultural pursuits. The family is still well represented in the Miami valley, and his widow, Mrs. Lydia Bailey, and son, William H. Bailey, now live on a valuable and well-cultivated farm in Madison township, Butler county. John Bailey was born near Eldorado, Preble county, O., in 1839, a son of John and Mary (Clark) Bailey, natives of Pennsylvania. From the Keystone state they made their way as a young married couple to Preble county, where they took up the hard duties connected with the development of a farm from the wilderness, a task which was accomplished after years of faithful and persevering labor. They contributed materially to the early progress and development of their community and were highly esteemed as belonging to that class of sturdy, self-reliant people who paved the way for future settlement and civilization. John Bailey the elder died on his farm in Preble county, following which his widow went to Darke county, where her demise occurred. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom but three are living: Samuel, of New Madison, Ohio; James, of Winchester, Ind.; and Hiram, of Benton Harbor, Mich. John Bailey the younger grew up at his home in Preble county, O., where he attended the public schools, and was his father's assistant until his marriage, in the spring of 1860, to Lydia Weikel. She was born in Madison town-

ship, Butler county, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Buck) Weikel, and a history of her family will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of J. C. Weikel. After his marriage Mr. Bailey settled on a farm near New Paris, Preble county, where he was engaged in agricultural operations during the remainder of his life, and where he died at the age of thirty-six years, March 10, 1875. In politics Mr. Bailey was a Republican, but never cared for office, although a good and valued citizen. Had he not been called by death so early in his career he would have doubtless achieved a marked success. As it was he displayed ability that accomplished excellent results. His religious faith was that of the Universalists. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey became the parents of six children: William H., born August 9, 1860, at New Paris; Elizabeth, the wife of James Shafer, a merchant of Jacksonboro, Ohio; Simon, an operator of Benton Harbor, Mich., married Kate Weir; John, a farmer in Illinois; Kate, the wife of William Keiser, of Douglas county, Ill.; and Horace, manager of a business in Camden, O., who married Ebbie Overholt. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Bailey lived at Camden, O., until 1892, at which time she moved to a farm of 180 acres, in Madison township, Butler county, where she still makes her home, being one of the highly esteemed ladies of her community. Her son, William H. Bailey, was educated in the public schools of Camden and Eldorado, O., and has always resided at home, where he has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. While he is a general farmer, he has been successful in his specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, and as a progressive man, uses modern methods and keeps abreast of the advancements in his vocation. He has always been a great reader and is well posted on current events, and while his connection with politics is limited to his casting his vote on the Republican ticket, he takes much interest in township affairs. His fraternal connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Middletown, and his contributions to religious movements are numerous and generous.

Leroy Bailey, son of Arley W. and Alice (Summerton) Bailey, was born June 20, 1895, in Middletown, Ohio, where he attended the public schools, graduating from the high school with the class of 1911. He also attended the Spencerian college at Cincinnati and after leaving this school accepted a position with the American Rolling-mill where he was up to the time of his enlistment. He enlisted in the U. S. Marines, April 19, 1917, was sent at once to France; was gassed at Verdun, from the effects of which he was blind for over two months and confined to the hospital for a period of eleven months. He returned from France December 9, 1918, and received his discharge June 30, 1919. On April 21, 1919, Mr. Bailey married Gertrude DuErmit, daughter of Joseph F. and Margaret (Kuderer) DuErmit, of Blue Ash, Ohio. Her parents are living and she has a sister and three brothers: Helen, J. Warren, Edward and Lester. J. Warren enlisted with the U. S. Marines, April 1, 1917, and served in France until the signing of the Armistice and received his discharge in August, 1919. Mr. Bailey's parents now live in Oklahoma, and he has two brothers, Arthur and Wilson, the

latter in the U. S. Navy after a period of service in the late war. Mr. Bailey is a first-class young man and merits success. He is a member of United Brethren church; in politics, liberal.

Thomas Bailey, Sr. One of the oldest employees of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, is Thomas Bailey, sr., whose service with this company began in 1901 and whose work has been characterized by fidelity, industry and skilled performance of duty. Like many others who are engaged in steel work, he entered upon his career as a railroad man, but early developed a liking for his present calling, in which he has found contentment and success. Mr. Bailey was born at Pittsburg, Pa., November 24, 1851, a son of Thomas and Anna (Thompson) Bailey. His parents, natives of England, emigrated to the United States during the '40s, settling at Pittsburg, where the following six children were born: Martha, who is the wife of James A. Hunter and lives at the old home place at Latrobe, Pa.; John, who joined the regular army before the Civil war and was wounded during that conflict; Will and David, who are deceased; Anna, who is the widow of Don Nale; and Thomas. Thomas Bailey, sr., received a public school education and was reared on the home farm in the vicinity of Latrobe, Pa., where he followed farming until he was eighteen years of age. At that time he was lured from the parental roof by the attraction and glamour of railroad life, but the better remuneration and chance for advancement led him into the steel industry, with which he has since been identified. For some years he was located in the big plant at Muncie, Ind., but in 1901 came to the American Rolling mill at Middletown, where he has since been employed in the capacity of roller. During his nineteen years of service he has performed his duties so faithfully and efficiently that he has won and held the confidence and esteem of his employers, while among his fellows he is popular because of his good comradeship and many sterling qualities of character. Mr. Bailey is a Republican and a member of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His religious connection is with the Lutheran church. He married Carrie L., daughter of Bryan and Mary A. Wolf, and she died February 5, 1905, having been the mother of these children: Thomas and Will, of Middletown; Mary A., who is the wife of A. Woods, of Middletown, and has a little son, Samuel Shaylor, born in September, 1917; LeRoy, of Detroit, Mich.; Carrie, the wife of Carl Sixt, of Middletown; Berenice, the wife of Morris Baker, of Detroit; Walter, also of that city; David, who is a sailor in the United States Navy; and Lorella, twin of David, deceased, and Robert and Kenneth. After the death of the mother, the eldest daughter, Mary, took upon her young shoulders the duties of bringing up the younger children, and performed her part ably and well. She has hosts of friends at Middletown who will attest her lovable qualities, and has been constant and self-sacrificing in her care of her father, who now makes his home with her and her husband at the pleasant and comfortable Woods home, located on 1016 Crawford street, Middletown. Thomas Bailey, sr., is the grandparent of twelve grandchildren: Samuel S. Woods, son of Mrs. Woods; Wil-



THOMAS BAILEY, SR.

MRS. CARRIE L. BAILEY

THOMAS B. BAILEY, JR., AND FAMILY

liam and Dale, sons of William E.; Ruth, Davis and Leroy, sons of Carrie N.; John and Harold, sons of Berenice; and four, mention of whom will be found in the sketch of Thomas Bailey, jr.

Thomas B. Bailey, jr., who occupies the position of sheet roller at the plant of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, has exemplified in his career the value of industry and diligence when combined to natural ability, as applied to the following of a useful trade. From young manhood he has been employed in the industry of which he is now a member and in its persistent and careful prosecution he has found not only contentment and prosperity but the medium through which he has been able to gain an acknowledged position among his fellow-citizens. Mr. Bailey was born at Scottdale, Pa., November 4, 1880, a son of Thomas and the late Carrie (Wolf) Bailey. The family originated in England, but became early settlers of Pennsylvania, from which state Thomas Bailey the elder took his wife and children to Muncie, Ind. In 1901 he became a resident of Middletown, where he was one of the first employees of the American Rolling mill, with which he is still identified. Mrs. Bailey died February 2, 1906, at Middletown. She had been the mother of the following children: William, a resident of Middletown; May, the wife of Albert Wood; Roy, a resident of Detroit; Carrie, the wife of Carl Sixt of Kyles, Ohio; Bernice, who married Maurice Baker, of Detroit; Thomas B. jr.; Walter of Detroit; David, in the United States Navy; and Kenneth, of Middletown. Thomas B. Bailey, jr., received his education in the public schools of Scottdale, Pa., and Muncie, Ind., and in the latter city first applied himself to the learning of his trade. Having successfully passed his apprenticeship, he became a journeyman and worked in several mills prior to coming to Middletown in 1901. At that time he had just about reached his majority and entered the American Rolling mill as one of its first employees, with which plant he has been connected ever since, being now the incumbent of a position as sheet roller. He is one of the reliable and trustworthy men of his department and in his work is accurate and expeditious. Mr. Bailey was married at Middletown, August 16, 1905, to Mary, daughter of William and Joanna (Durbin) Weaver, who reside at Middletown. Mrs. Bailey has three sisters: Edith, the wife of Wendell Butterfield, of Rochester, N. Y.; Bessie, the wife of Orville Dorman, of Cambridge, Ohio; and Helen, the wife of Rev. J. A. Hoffman, of Marysville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey are the parents of four children: Louise, born June 7, 1906; Paul David, born June 9, 1908; Martha Jane, born June 27, 1910; and Thomas III, born October 12, 1911. Mr. Bailey has built one of the most beautiful residences on Yankee road. He is a Republican in politics, but is liberal in local affairs, and takes only a good citizen's part and interest in matters of a public character. His religious connection and that of Mrs. Bailey is with the Methodist church.

Rev. Timothy A. Bailey. Father Bailey, who has been pastor of St. Mary's Catholic church of Oxford since 1913, was born at Springfield, Ohio, April 20, 1879, a son of John and Bridget (Nolan) Bailey, who passed their entire married life at Springfield, where John Bailey

died about 1899, while his widow still survives him and makes her home there. There were six children in the family, namely: Stephen, James, John, Ellen, Sarah and Timothy. As a lad, Timothy A. Bailey attended the parochial schools of Springfield. At a very early period in his life he evidenced a predilection for study, and whatever leisure could be found when his home tasks were done was turned to the acquisition of knowledge. He had the power of concentration and therefore the gift of memory, qualities which have converted his brain into a veritable storehouse of profound and useful knowledge. He pursued his theological studies at Mount St. Mary's seminary, Cincinnati, and in 1904 was ordained at St. Peter's cathedral, by Archbishop Henry Moeller. After ordination he was stationed at the cathedral at Cincinnati for two years, and thereafter maintained his research along theological lines until entering upon his active ministerial career at Loveland, Ohio, where for five years he was pastor of St. Columbianna's church. In 1913 he came to Oxford as pastor of St. Mary's Catholic church, where his labors have entitled his name to be enrolled among those who have deepened and broadened the channels of human brotherhood. St. Mary's church has 300 souls in Oxford and the surrounding community, and in addition Father Bailey makes mission trips to College Corner and Somerville. February 17, 1917, St. Mary's church was destroyed by fire, but since that time, through the zealous and persistent work of Father Bailey, funds have been raised, and the erection of a new and handsome edifice is now under way. He was appointed irremovable pastor of St. Edwaid church, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 6, 1919.

Joseph H. Baird, who during his life was known as one of Lemon township's most successful farmers and after his retirement from farm life became a resident of Middletown, died July 15, 1919, at the home of his son-in-law, F. W. Compton, near Monroe. He was born on a farm in Lemon township, east of Middletown, Butler county, Ohio, February 22, 1847, a son of James and Mary (Weaver) Baird. The family was founded in Ohio by his grandfather, Joseph Weaver, who migrated from New York at an early day. He was a tailor by trade, with little save book knowledge of farming conditions or methods, but having the courageous spirit of the pioneers he faced unafraid the hardships and perils of settlement in a new country. The locality in which he settled, near Jacksonboro, was all a wilderness, but he put up his log cabin, and cleared his land, and before he died had made appreciable progress in the development of a good farm. He was the father of seven sons and three daughters. James Baird, the father of Joseph H. Baird, was born in the state of New York and was still a child when brought by his parents to the wilderness near Jacksonboro. The schools at that time being of the most primitive kind, difficult to reach and with but short sessions, the lad was given only a limited education, although he made the most of his opportunities. After several years of residence near Jacksonboro, he bought a home at Middletown, but eventually purchased a farm in Lemon township, which he continued to operate during the remainder of his life. He died on his valuable property

when eighty years of age, and Mrs. Baird has also long since passed away. They were members of the old school Baptist church, and were people who were widely and well known in their community and highly respected and esteemed. Mr. Baird was originally a Whig in his political views, and later, with the forming of the Republican party, joined that movement. Mr. and Mrs. Baird were the parents of two children: Jane, deceased, who was the wife of David Quinn; and Joseph H. Joseph H. Baird enjoyed such educational advantages as were to be gained through attendance at the district school of his native community, and, being the only son of his parents, remained on the homestead and assisted his father. He was first married October 26, 1870, to Miss Sarah L. Lucas, of Butler county, Ohio, who died in 1902, having been the mother of two children: Mary, who married Frank W. Compton, an elevator owner and stockman of Lemon township; and James W., conducting operations on his father's old farm, who married Effie Hendrickson, and has four sons, Elmer, Joseph, Raymond and Arthur. Mr. Baird was again married to Sarah L. Banker, of Butler county, Ohio, who died July 27, 1917. In 1872 Mr. Baird located on a farm north of Middletown, a tract of 218 acres, on which he resided for a period of seventeen years, and in 1889 bought another property, of 186 acres, on Dix creek, Lemon township. There he made many valuable improvements and carried on a general farming business, in addition to raising all kinds of stock, until 1902, when he retired and turned the active work of the farm over to his son. When he laid aside active labor, Mr. Baird moved to his modern and handsome home at No. 913 E. Third street, Middletown. Mr. Baird was always a public-spirited citizen and at all times ready to carry out in full the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. In 1910 he was elected the first mayor of the thriving little town of Monroe, and during his administration his splendid business and executive ability was brought into play in securing a number of needed reforms and civic improvements for that place. He was also a staunch friend of education and for twelve years was a member of the local board of school directors. He voted the Republican ticket. His religious connection was with the old school Baptist church, of which both his wives were members.

Henry L. Bake. The true standard by which to judge a community is the character of its prominent citizens. Progress is rarely, if ever, a result of chance, but always the execution of well-laid plans based on a thorough comprehension of the laws of business and finance. It is only by keeping in view the lives of men who are ever associated in the busy marts of commerce that we can judge of the importance of development, and the possibilities of progress. Thus it is that from the commercial, more than the literary or political, side that the most valuable lessons of life are to be extracted. In this connection, as a gentleman whose business and financial qualifications are of the best, it is eminently fitting to mention the career of Henry L. Bake, president of the Farmers State bank of College Corner, Ohio, who has been engaged in general merchandising here since 1873 and is one of the community's most

highly esteemed citizens. Mr. Bake belongs to an old and honored family, and traces his ancestry to Christian Bake, of Switzerland, born 1713, the first of the name in America, who came to this country in 1727 and located in Hunterdon county, N. J., where he died in 1783. His oldest son, John, was born in New Jersey, in 1748, and came to Ohio in 1807, settling for a time at Cincinnati, and then moving on to Fountain county, Ind., in 1838. His oldest son, Jacob, was the great-grandfather of Henry L. Bake, and his son, William Bake, also a native of Hunterdon county, N. J., came to Fountain county, Ind., in 1806, and died in October, 1849. He was a justice of the peace in Union county, Ind., and eventually settled on Indian creek, having a farm and gristmill four and one-half miles west of Oxford, Ohio. His eldest son was William Bake, and the father of fourteen children. He was born October 5, 1797, in New Jersey, and removed to Indiana in 1806, settling in Union county, but died in Franklin county, that state, June 15, 1852. He was a farmer and also owned a grist and saw mill on Indian creek. His children were: Perry, born in Franklin county, Ind., June 27, 1827, a farmer on Indian creek. The oldest son of Perry Bake was James A. Bake, of Hamilton, Ohio. The father of Henry L. Bake was Peter Bake, who was born in Union county, Ind., February 11, 1804. He was educated in the common schools, securing what was considered a good education for those days, and was long engaged in agricultural pursuits, also being the owner of a distillery, the product of which was sold at Cincinnati. He died September 4, 1868, after a long and honorable career. In politics he was a Democrat, and he and his wife were Universalists. She bore the maiden name of Tobitha Phems, and was born in North Carolina, and died July 20, 1888. They were the parents of William, born July 20, 1828, was a sawmill man, and died August 29, 1914; Eliza, born October 29, 1829, married John Hannah, and resided at Des Moines, Iowa, where she died; Franklin, born November 16, 1835, and passed his life as a farmer; Lorinda M., born in November, 1839, married William Murphy, and died October 11, 1866. Henry L. Bake was born in Union county, Ind., July 8, 1847, and was educated in the rural schools, residing at home until 1868, when he secured a position as clerk in a store at Contreras, Butler county, where he remained something more than three years. In 1873 he came to College Corner, where he built a general store, and conducted it six years, and during that time so developed his business that he needed larger quarters and accordingly built, in 1879, his present establishment, which has continued to be the leading enterprise of its kind at this live and thriving locality. He has made his establishment modern in every respect, and has shown marked ability as a merchant, carefully studying the needs and wants of his patrons and employing up-to-date methods in the handling of his large, well-arranged and carefully selected stock of goods. In 1895 Mr. Bake assisted in the establishment of the Farmers State bank of College Corner, of which he has since been president, a position in which he has been the principal factor in making it one of the sound and well established financial institutions of Butler county. Mr. Bake has never aspired to public office, and his only

connection with politics has been as a Democratic voter. He has taken a leading part, however, in movements which have benefited the locality, and has always stood for progress and advancement and for good citizenship. He was married October 26, 1870, to Sallie A. Ridenour, who was born in Preble county, Ohio, a daughter of Isaac Ridenour. Mrs. Bake died May 9, 1917, leaving one son: Murry, born May 4, 1880, in Union county, Ind., a graduate of the College Corner High school, who has always been associated in business with his father. He married Grace L. Earhart, of Butler county, Ohio, and they have a daughter, Neva. Murry Bake is a member of the Knights of Pythias. The daughter of Henry L. Bake, Daisy C., was born in December, 1871, and died April 22, 1908, as the wife of Arthur H. Jones, by whom she had two children: Nellie E. and Harry L. Harry L. Jones, born in 1895, served for three years as first lieutenant in the World war overseas, during which time he filled several important positions.

W. E. Bake, prominent auctioneer and well known farmer of College Corner, was born in Franklin county, Ind., January 12, 1869, a son of Perry and Mary Elizabeth (Stevenson) Bake. Perry Bake was born in Franklin county, and his wife in Union county, Ind. The parents of Mrs. Bake, the Stevensons, came from the east to Union county some years before. William Edward Bake, the paternal grandparent of W. E. Bake, bought land in Franklin county from the government. To him and his wife were born fourteen children, twelve of whom reached maturity. They were: James, Sam, John, Henry, Jacob, and Perry; Betsy, who married P. Farr; Catherine, who married Freeman Kimble; Sarah, who married Philip Mericle; Julia, who married Francis Mericle; Clarissa, who married Abraham Jones; and Phoebe. Of the twelve children, James is the only one living. Perry and Mary Bake, the parents of W. E. Bake, were residents of Franklin county, Ind., where Mr. Bake was a farmer. To them were born the following children: Clara, James, O. M. Bake, a former bank president, and now deceased; Charles, and W. E. Bake. Perry Bake and wife were members of the Universalist church, and the remains of both lie buried in the Universalist cemetery in Union county. W. E. Bake was educated in the common schools of Franklin county, and in later years was married to Emma Ardery, who became the mother of one son, Oakley, now a farmer of Union county, Ind. Mrs. Bake passed away a few years after her marriage, and W. E. Bake later married Edith Pentecost, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pentecost, of Union county, Ind. To them was born one daughter, Gertrude. About 1900, W. E. Bake moved to the Indiana side of College Corner, and today devotes most of his time to auctioneering, at which he is greatly successful. He is the owner of the farm occupied by his son, Oakley, in Union township. For a number of years W. E. Bake was trustee of Union township, Union county, and is a member of the Republican party. He is also prominent in K. of P. circles. During the recent war, Mr. Bake gave unsparingly of time and effort to the many causes of America and her Allies, and achieved a great amount of work in all lines.

Albert Milton Baker, subject of this sketch, and son of Andrew B. and Hannah (Kline) Baker, was born in Armstrong county, Pa., February 11, 1883, and married Rose Bletzacher, born January 25, 1880, a daughter of Martin and Catharine Stalter, of Somerset, Ohio, June 25, 1905. Five children were born to this union: Louella, Bernadine, Albert, jr., Agnes and Edward. Mr. Baker had ten sisters and brothers: William and Carrie, deceased; Ira, of Hyde Park, Pa.; Merle, in France; Kate, Mrs. Jack Cunningham, of LaPorte, Ind.; Lola, Mrs. Irving Blystone, deceased; Sadie, Mrs. William Bahmith, of Vandergrift, Pa.; Mildred, of Leechburg, Pa.; Ora, Mrs. E. McLane, in Canton, Ohio; Wilda, of Hyde Park, Pa. The parents live in Hyde Park. Mrs. Baker has four sisters: Florence, Mrs. John Dittoe, of Somerset, Ohio; Lizzie, Mrs. Jess Green, of Columbus, Ohio; Mary, Mrs. William Carney, and Clara, Mrs. Omar Schneider, both in Somerset. Mrs. Baker's parents came from Alsace-Lorraine. Her father died March 12, 1908, at Somerset, Ohio. He was a miner, but also owned a farm on which the mother now lives. For a number of years, Mr. Baker was employed in the Rolling mills in his home place. He next went to the mills in Zanesville for a short period and September 21, 1905, took a position as shearman in the plant of the American Rolling Mill company at Middletown. Mr. Baker has substantial interests in Middletown, and owns a splendid property on Woodland avenue, which is the home of the family. He is a member of Holy Trinity church and also a member of the order of Eagles, and politically votes the Democratic ticket.

Isaac C. Baker. Among the men elected to official position in Butler county, November 8, 1918, one whose previous record, general qualifications for ability and character gave every ground for his successful career as prosecuting attorney, was Isaac C. Baker. Mr. Baker has the reputation of being an indefatigable worker, combining scholarship with an active energy and forceful personality. These qualities have been much esteemed in his new position, where, at the outset, the citizens of Butler county hoped to place a man who would lend thorough integrity and practical efficiency to the administration. Mr. Baker was born at Hamilton, October 9, 1888, a son of Benjamin and Jennie (Mee) Baker. He belongs to a family which settled at an early date in this country's history in New Jersey, from which state his great-great-grandfather, Daniel Baker, enlisted for service in the Revolutionary war, in which he acted as an aide-de-camp to General Washington. The family later became pioneers of Milford township, Butler county, where was born Benjamin Baker. The latter entered upon his career as a farmer, but subsequently turned his attention to the profession of law, and after studying at Miami university and the Cincinnati Law school, was admitted to the state bar, and for a number of years practiced at Hamilton and Somerville, at which latter place his death occurred, and he was buried there. They had three children: John, is single; Isaac C.; and Benjamin, who is still attending school. Isaac C. Baker attended the public school of Hamilton, and in 1911 was graduated with his degree of Bachelor

of Law from the law department of Ohio State university. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession, at first with his father at Hamilton and Somerville, at which place he resides. When he was twenty-one years of age he was elected mayor of Somerville, and this position he retained until November 5, 1918, when he was elected prosecuting attorney of Butler county. He has had practice in all of the courts and experience in divers and many important cases. A strong and forceful speaker, he has been active on the stump during political campaigns, and in the war period was most effective as a "Four Minute Man." Fraternally, he holds membership in the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose. Mr. Baker married Ruth, daughter of E. C. Muff, of Somerville, and they have one child: Carlyle, born May 25, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are members of the Methodist church.

Nicholas Baker, founder of the Baker family, was born and grew to manhood in Hesse Cassel, Germany. There he met and married Christina Eckhart. Shortly thereafter he sold his patrimony and on receiving that money he and his young wife sailed for America. They landed in Philadelphia 150 years ago, and traveled from there to the Moravian settlement, in Northampton county, where both lived and died, and they had there born to them sons and daughters. The son Jacob was the father of George Baker, sr., and he removed to the Iron bridge, on Jacob's creek, in Fayette county, Pa., where he died. His sons were Nicholas Daniel, Peter, David, George and Jacob. At Iron Bridge, the elder Baker married a second time, his wife being Nancy Howell McCauley, daughter of John and Nancy (Howell) McCauley. She was the daughter of Griffith Howell, of Baltimore, and sister of John Howell, said to be the architect of the old Baltimore courthouse destroyed in a riot in that city. Her sister married David Cannon, founder of Cannonsburg, Washington county, Pa. George Baker, great-grandfather of our subject, and his brother, Jacob, removed to Armstrong county, Pa., about the year 1838. Jacob, who was married to Elizabeth Klingensmith, was a soldier in the war of 1812. George Baker bought 600 acres of land in Armstrong county, Pa., on the site now known as Cochran's mills, and lived and died there. His sons and daughters were: Griffith, born July 16, 1809; married Christene Klingensmith; they had three sons and four daughters; David, born March 14, 1811, married Janet Rutherford Query, they had two sons and one daughter; by his second marriage to Anna Myers, he had one son and one daughter; Jane, born January 9, 1814, married George Martz, left no children; Priscilla, born March 23, 1816, married Armour Speer, they had five sons and four daughters; John, born April 1, 1818, married Catherine Grinder, they had five sons and three daughters; George, born March 26, 1820, married Mary Willburn, they had one son and eight daughters; Mary Ann, born March 19, 1822, married George Miller, they had one daughter; Jacob, born March, 1824, married Jane Kirkland, they had two sons and three daughters; Lovina, born March 13, 1827, died, May 27, 1864; Jehu Howell, born January 14,

1829, married Sarah McCutcheon, had three sons and three daughters.

John Clark Barkley, a prominent druggist and influential citizen of Oxford, is a son of Thomas Benton Barkley and Emma (Sutton) Barkley. He was born on a farm in Bath township, Franklin county, Ind., May 15, 1871, whither his father had removed from Pennsylvania two years prior to the birth of his son John. The paternal grandparents of John Clark Barkley were natives of Indiana county, Pa., and his paternal great-grandparents had settled in the same county years before after emigrating from county Antrim, Ireland. In his youth, John C. Barkley attended schools at Lebanon and Oxford. Upon leaving school, he entered the employ of S. T. Ramsey of College Corner, and in 1892 he left Ramsey and engaged in the drug business by himself, in the same place. The years of close application to work along pharmaceutical lines now stood him in excellent stead, and his success grew with the years. February 1, 1919, he purchased the drug store of C. C. Neal, which he still operates in connection with his business at Oxford. During the same year of his opening his own drug store, he was married, March, 1892, to Anna R. Ramsey, daughter of his former employer, S. R. Ramsey, and Mary A. (Wilson) Ramsey. S. R. Ramsey, a general merchant of College Corner, was a veteran of the civil war and is deceased, and his widow lives at College Corner. To them were born the following children: Bena R. Hamley, the wife of Dr. W. M. Hamley, of College Corner; Anna R. Barkley, wife of the subject of this sketch. After his marriage, John Clark Barkley lived in College Corner until June 1, 1919, when he moved to Oxford. For a number of years he was a member of the College Corner school board. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark Barkley: Harry Millikan Barkley; Robert Sutton Barkley; Harry Millikan was educated at Indiana university, at Bloomington, Ind., and at Miami university at Oxford. Soon after America declared war upon the Central Powers, he entered the officers' training school at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, and here won his commission of second lieutenant. His commission of first lieutenant was awarded him later at Camp Meade, Maryland. Prior to his military experience, he had been engaged in the drug business with his father at College Corner, and with the Fuller Brush company of Connecticut as commercial traveler, in which he was very successful in both. He was married to Miss Betty Hutchins, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a student of Miami university, Oxford. Robert Sutton Barkley is a student in the Oxford High school, and is employed by his father in the latter's pharmacy. The Barkley family are members of the Presbyterian church. John Clark Barkley is a member of the Knights of Pythias, is an Odd Fellow, and is also a member of the Independent order of Foresters.

Thomas Benton Barkley, of Oxford, is typifying the true character of the energetic, public-spirited, high-minded American. No citizen of the United States ever labored more faithfully for the ideals of his country than he. He was born in 1845, in Indiana county, Pa., a son of John and Anna (Clark) Barkley. His paternal grand-

parents, Alexander Barkley and Ann Barkley, came from their home in County Antrim, Ireland, to this country, years before, and settled in Indiana county, Pa., and were married there. Alexander Barkley was a weaver by trade, and it is said of him that he was a master in his calling. To him and his wife were born the following children: James, Alexander, Jane, and John, the father of the subject of this biography. In early life, John Barkley, Thomas Barkley's father, was a farmer in the county of his birth. Upon reaching manhood, he married his first wife, Elizabeth Rankin, of the same county, and to them were born the following children: Martha, married William Earhart; Mary Ann, married William Bracken; Alexander, married Elizabeth Colasier; James, married Elizabeth Ray; Caroline, married John Lang; William, married Elizabeth Miller. Elizabeth Rankin Barkley, first wife of John Barkley, passed away some years after her marriage, and he married Anna Clark. The family remained in Pennsylvania, on the homestead in Indiana county. To the second union were born four children. Two reached maturity. They were: John, jr., and Thomas, the subject of this sketch. John jr., was anxious to become a merchant, and after finishing school became a coffee merchant, first in Johnstown, Pa., and later of Baltimore, Md., and finally of Wheeling, W. Va. He married Adelaide Millikin, daughter of James Millikin, of Allegheny county, Pa. To him and his wife were born four children: Millikin, Harry, Anne and Bessie. Harry today is a real estate dealer of New York, and Millikin is a salesman in the same city. Anna was married to Thomas Lindsay of Baltimore; and Bessie became the wife of Thomas Wright, of Newark, Ohio. Thomas Benton Barkley received his early education in the schools of Indiana county, Pa., and after leaving school, became a traveling salesman for Bush-Bunnat company, of Philadelphia. He continued successfully in this line of endeavor for a year, and at about this time, was married, in February, 1865, to Emma J. Sutton, daughter of Sylvanus and Mary Sutton, of Indiana county, Pa. During the civil war, Thomas Barkley served under Colonel Porter, in the Pennsylvania 57th Regiment of Infantry. His brother John also served with the 11th Pennsylvania Reserves, and was taken prisoner by the Confederates in a seven-days' battle, and was sent to Libby prison. A half-brother, Alexander, also served in the war, and the three were held in high regard by their officers, being men of intrepid courage, great resource, and the type of men that are leaders among other men. After his marriage to Emma Sutton, Thomas Benton Barkley with his wife, remained on the Sutton farm, and in 1869 came to Franklin county, Ind., settling on a farm in Bath township. To this happy union were born the following children: Sylvanus, who was drowned at the age of eighteen years; John Clark, now a druggist of Oxford; Benton F., of Chicago; Josephine, deceased; and Mary. Mary Barkley was married to Riley I. Miller, of College Corner, and is the mother of two children: Harold W., and Thomas S. Benton F. Barkley resides in Chicago Heights, Ill., and is married to Cora Weidner. They have one child, Frieda. John C. Barkley married Anna Ramsey, and is the father of two children, Harry M., and Robert S. Thomas

Barkley's first wife, the mother of the aforementioned children, died a number of years ago, and burial was made in the Oxford cemetery. Mr. Barkley was married later, in 1880, to Ida Pike, the daughter of Perley French Pike and Mary (Reed) Pike. Perley Pike was born near Boston, Mass., and his wife in Athens, Ohio. They lived in Athens county, Ohio, and were the parents of the following children: Sophronia Bullfinch, Azro, Manville T., Granville R., Charles Reed and Ida. Perley French Pike, their father, served in the War of 1812, and the family was identified in active service in the Revolutionary war. Perley Pike and his wife died at Athens, Ohio. One child was born to Thomas Barkley and Ida Pike Barkley: Ellis Blake Barkley, who married Ina M. Munns, daughter of James and Ida Munns of College Corner. To Ellis and Ina Barkley has been born one child, Ida Janice. Thomas Benton lived for forty years on his farm in Franklin county, Ind., and was also actively engaged in the mercantile business, in which he was well known and gained great success, at Bath station, on the C. & O. railway. In Franklin county, he was an ardent and active Democrat, and was elected state representative from Franklin and Union counties to the Indiana Assembly, serving at the sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth assemblies. Here he stood sponsor for any number of excellent laws, laboring for the ideals of his party, clinging steadfastly to his own highminded and upright principles. The laws failed in some instances only for the reason that his party was in the minority. Among the acts of legislature for which he labored and stood sponsor was a measure for revision of the "county commissioner law," calling for the individual voter's right to vote for the commissioner in his district alone. The bill for revision introduced the proposal to divide each county into three districts, and to elect a commissioner for each district. He also proposed a bill providing that the tax assessor take the school enumeration, thereby to effect a great saving. Mr. Barkley also served as chief doorkeeper during a session of the Indiana State Legislature. He is a faithful Presbyterian, doing much for his church. He was active in Masonic circles, and was also a loyal Odd Fellow. In the recent activities anent the World war, Thomas Benton Barkley was particularly active, helping in every way possible, and keeping high the ideals of his patriot forbears, and adding to the record of loyal service already gained by him. It was in 1917 that Thomas Benton Barkley came to Oxford, and here he purchased a residence at 15 S. Beech street, where he now resides. He is regarded by his fellow-citizens as a man whose good works and good name will ever flourish in the memory of whatever community in which he lives, and is heartily welcomed to Oxford.

Fred Sull Barr. At the age of sixty years, Fred Sull Barr is practically retired from active affairs, but still occupies the farm of 296 acres in Madison township upon which a large part of his career has been spent. He was born at Dedham, Mass., August 9, 1859, a son of Henry H. and Frances (Fisher) Barr, and is descended from French stock, the name having originally been De Barr. His grandfather was Harry Barr, a native of France, who married an Irish girl and became an early emigrant to the United States, where he

secured employment in the service of the United States Government. Locating in Northern Ohio, he passed his entire life there, and died near St. Mary's Ohio. Henry H. Barr had only a common school education in Northern Ohio, where he was born, and he and his brother Samuel became prominent and successful contractors of Cincinnati, where they owned a large lumber yard, as well as one in the south. In 1871 they came to Butler county, settling in the northwest corner of Madison township, where they took up 132 acres of land, and here Henry Barr died in 1915 at the age of seventy-nine years. He was a Republican in politics and fraternally was a charter member of a Cincinnati lodge of Odd Fellows, with which he was identified for half a century. Mr. Barr married Frances Fisher, who was born in Maine and died on the Madison township farm in 1882, aged forty-five years. She was a daughter of Albert and Orvilla (Gray) Fisher, of Maine, early settlers of Cincinnati, where Mr. Fisher was a railroad engineer, but in later life retured to Massachusetts, where he bought land and passed the closing years of his life. Mrs. Barr's brother, Albert, is a flour commissioner of New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Barr had seven children, as follows: Frances, deceased, who was the wife of George Kilbourn and later of Abe Cummings; Fred Sull, of this notice; Hattie, who married L. Webber, a farmer of Madison township; Samuel, a retired farmer of Dayton; George, a grocer for eighteen years, and now public safety inspector of Middletown; May, who died at twenty-five years of age as the wife of Lee Webber; and Ella, who died in infancy. Fred Sull Barr attended the graded schools of Cincinnati and the high school at Middletown for one year, and for a short period followed teaching in the rural schools of Hamilton county. He next learned the moulders' trade, at Cincinnati, and after working in the Irving & Green foundry for a time, in that city, traveled extensively for three years. In 1885 he was married and shortly thereafter bought the old Barr place in Madison township, on which he lived and carried on operations for upwards of twenty years. Selling this property he bought a tract of 296 acres in section 4, Madison township, which he brought to a high state of development. He carried on a general farming business, raised all kinds of grain and tobacco, and bred Jersey cattle and Poland China hogs, which won him a number of blue ribbons and prizes at county fairs, where he was an annual exhibitor for some years. At present he leases his land. Mr. Barr is a Republican in politics. For many years he has staunchly supported the cause of education, and his children have been given a chance to acquire practical training under the best possible country conditions. He was formerly for some years affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, and he and Mrs. Barr belong to the United Brethren church. September 15, 1885, Mr. Barr was married to Elizabeth Phillips, of Astoria, Ohio, daughter of Plummer Phillips, a blacksmith by vocation. Mrs. Barr died in 1899, leaving five daughters: Elsie, who was a teacher for twelve years, and is now the wife of Charles Plessinger, of West Carrollton, Ohio, with one son, Robert; May, deceased, who was the wife of Ed Linville and had two children, William and Martha; Myrtle, a teacher in the schools of

Middletown; Mazie, a teacher of West Carrollton; and Grace, a teacher of French in the high school at West Carrollton. February 15, 1903, Mr. Barr was again married, being united with Elizabeth Thomas, of Trenton, Ohio, a daughter of John and Marion (Miller) Thomas, who were born near Trenton and were well known and highly respected farming people, and were the parents of six children. Mr. Thomas died at Seven Mile, Ohio, January 21, 1916, Mrs. Thomas having passed away in March, 1882.

Carl Bartels. A record of thirty years of conscientious labor in the service of one concern has characterized the career of Carl Bartels, who, since his arrival at Hamilton in 1889, has been in the employ of the Mosler Safe company. During this long period of time he has advanced steadily in position and in the confidence of his concern and for the past ten years has acted in the capacity of superintendent, with full charge of the entire plant. Mr. Bartels was born April 14, 1863, in Germany. One of a family of ten children, he was given a public school education, supplemented by a high school education in his native land. His ambitions caused him to look beyond the narrow confines of his native community, where there seemed little in the future for him but to work hard without much chance of gaining independence from financial worries, and accordingly, at the age of twenty-four years, he gathered together his small earnings and made the trip to the United States. About two years later, in March, 1889, he came to Hamilton and secured a position at contracting on vault work for the Mosler Safe company, one of the oldest and best known concerns of its kind in the country. He was employed in this line for about ten years, when he was made foreman of one of the departments, and several subsequent transfers made him thoroughly familiar with every department and detail of the business. His competence, reliability, industry and ability in handling men made him the logical choice for the superintendency when a vacancy occurred, and when he was given that post he was placed in entire charge of the plant. He has continued to occupy this important and responsible position to the present time and has proven himself one of the most valuable employees his company has ever had. Mr. Bartels was married in 1891 to Elizabeth, the daughter of Philip Reuter, of Minersville, Ohio, she being one of a family of twelve children. They now reside in their comfortable home, built by Mr. Bartels at No. 906 Central avenue. Four sons have been born to them: Carl P., born in 1892, a graduate of the graded schools, and now a department foreman in the employ of the Mosler Safe company, married Ellen Crittenden and has one son, and is a resident of Hamilton and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Leo F., born in 1896, a graduate of the graded and high schools, who studied business administration in the Illinois State university at Champaign, and left that institution at the outbreak of the war to work in the gun carriage division of the Ordnance Department, at the Mosler Safe company, but is now president of the Leabarjan Manufacturing company of Hamilton, single and an Elk, and makes his home with his parents; Edwin J., born in 1900, who is attending high school; and Elmer, born in

1902, also a high school student. The father of these sons is a member of the Elks, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also in business circles.

Charles E. Bauer. A number of the agriculturists of Butler county, and particularly the younger element, are engaged in operating the properties upon which they were born and which they have obtained from their fathers either through purchase or inheritance. This, however, has not been the case with Charles E. Bauer, who, while he is now the proprietor of the farm of his birth, has had somewhat extensive experience on other properties, both in Butler and Preble counties. Mr. Bauer was born in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, May 19, 1889, a son of George Bauer, also a native of this township. The first of the family to come to the United States was Conrad Bauer, grandfather of Charles E., who emigrated from Germany and became an early settler of Milford township, where he passed the balance of his life in agricultural pursuits. George Bauer grew up in his native township, where he attended the district schools, and on reaching manhood married Adda, daughter of Daniel and Julia Young, farming people of Preble county. Mrs. Bauer had two brothers, Lewis and Edgar, both of whom are now deceased. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bauer located on the old Young farm in Milford township now occupied by their son Charles E., and here the father died May 16, 1894, while the mother passed away in February, 1915, aged fifty-two years. Mrs. Bauer was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and she and her husband were the parents of three children: Mae L., who married Daniel L. Unsicker, a farmer of Milford township, and has two children, Helen and Fred; Charles E.; and Ethel, who married Arthur Somers, of Jonesboro, Ind., and has four children, Elmo, Lincoln, Virgil and Velma Louise. To the district schools of Milford township, Charles E. Bauer is indebted for his educational training. He remained at home and assisted his father and later his widowed mother until his marriage, May 24, 1911, to Helen, daughter of Martin and Catherine Farrell, of Monroe, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Farrell were natives of Ireland, who, upon their emigration to the United States, first settled at Middletown, Ohio, where Mr. Farrell became the proprietor of a meat market. Later they moved to Monroe, where they still make their home. They are the parents of four children: James, of Tiro, Ohio; Edward, who resides with his parents; Florence, a resident of Cincinnati; and Mrs. Bauer. After his marriage, Mr. Bauer resided in Milford township and followed farming for two years, but later went to Preble county for a time and subsequently moved to Somerville. Finally, in January, 1919, he returned to the old home place, where he has since been successfully engaged in general farming, and in raising cattle, hogs, sheep and horses. He has a well-cultivated and valuable property, and is considered one of the leading young agriculturists of his township, and votes the Democratic ticket. Mrs. Bauer is a member of the Catholic church at Oxford, and she and her husband are among the most popular young people in their locality.

John T. Bausch, M. D., is engaged in the successful practice of

his profession at Venice, Butler county, with the village of Ross as his postoffice address. His practice is largely of rural order and his visitations extend over a wide area of the fine farming country tributary to the village in which he resides. Dr. Bausch claims the Buckeye state as the place of his nativity. He was born in the city of Cincinnati, and is a son of John A. and Sophia (Armstrong) Bausch, both of whom were born in Cincinnati. John A. Bausch was reared and educated in his native city, where his marriage was solemnized, and there he was for half a century actively associated with the Queen City Varnish company, of which he was manager for many years prior to his death. His widow there continued her residence until she too passed away, her death having occurred in 1909. Both were zealous members of the Presbyterian church, and of their four children three are living. Of the children the eldest was Harry, who was graduated in the law school of the Y. M. C. A., at Cincinnati, as a member of the class of 1901, and who met a tragic death, in a street-car accident, in the same year, he having been at the time assistant city solicitor of Cincinnati; Dr. John T., of this review, is the next younger; and Olive, who received excellent educational advantages in her home city, has for the past several years been a successful and popular teacher in the public schools; Walter, youngest of the children, completed his education by a two-years' course in the University of Ohio, and for three years he was engaged in teaching in the public schools. Dr. John T. Bausch continued his studies in the public schools of Cincinnati until he had completed the curriculum of the high school, after which he entered the Miami Medical university, in Cincinnati, where he continued his technical studies from 1903 until 1907, in which latter year he was duly graduated, with degree of M. D. For two years thereafter he was engaged in hospital service at Sandusky, Ohio, where he gained valuable clinical experience, and for the ensuing two years he was established in practice in his native city. He then removed to Venice, Butler county, where he has since continued his professional labors and built up a substantial practice. He is one of the valued members of the Butler County Medical society and is identified also with the Ohio State Medical society. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church at Venice. In the autumn of 1909 Dr. Bausch was married to Sylvia Blair, of Price Hill, Ohio, she being a daughter of Herman and Amanda Blair, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of the city of Cincinnati, where Mr. Blair was for many years superintendent of a leading distillery, both he and his wife being now deceased. Of their four children the first born, Albert, is deceased; Mrs. Bausch was the next in order of birth; Helen is the wife of Walter Schradin, of Venice, Butler county; and Leo is a photographer in the city of Chicago. Dr. and Mrs. Bausch have two children, Robert Blair and Sylvia Olive.

John Calvin Beach. Among the farmers of moral and material worth whose labors have largely helped to develop the agricultural interests of Madison township county, is John Calvin Beach. Mr.

Beach is not of that type who has had fortune and property thrust upon him by inheritance and, perhaps, increased it by careful management. His large competence, his valuable properties in Madison township and his high and substantial standing as a citizen, have been acquired by individual force of character, by industry, perseverance and intelligent effort, founded upon the strictest honor. He was born June 22, 1865, in Madison township, Butler county, O., a son of Robert K. and Eleanor (Weidner) Beach, the former a native of near Amanda, this state, and the latter of Madison township. The grandfather of Mr. Beach was John Beach, born in the East, who came to Butler county as a pioneer, as did also John Weidner, the maternal grandfather. Robert K. Beach grew up near Amanda, O., where the home schools furnished him with his education, and where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout a long and useful career. He was a staunch Democrat in politics, and a member of the United Brethren church, in the faith of which he died in 1910, at the age of seventy-one years. His widow survived him until 1916, and was seventy-three years old at the time of her demise. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are deceased with the exception of John Calvin. The educational advantages of John Calvin Beach were the same as those of other farmers' sons of his day and locality, being confined to attendance at the district schools. His boyhood was divided between the winter terms of school and the long summers of work on the home farm, and thus he was brought up to sturdy and self-reliant young manhood, trained alike in body and mind for the exacting tasks which life was to ask him to perform. December 27, 1888, he was married toMiss Mary Florence Yost, of Preble county, O., born near Eaton, a daughter of Harvey and Sarah Jane (Manchester) Yost, the former a native of Preble county, and the latter of Michigan. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Yost settled near Eaton, where Mrs. Yost died in 1875, at the age of thirty years, her husband then marrying Elizabeth Baer, of Preble county. Mr. Yost died at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. Beach, when sixty-eight years of age. He was the father of five children all by his first wife: Durbin, a resident of Alberta, Canada; Charles, of Middletown, Ohio; Mary Florence, now Mrs. Beach; Medford, of Lockland, Ohio; and Ida, the wife of Ernest Linden, of Hamilton, this state. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beach: Wilbur Evans and Durbin Ellsworth. Wilber Evans Beach was born January 7, 1890, and after attending the public schools of Madison township and the high school at Middletown, took a two-year medical course at Cincinnati and spent two years in medical schools at Cleveland and after his graduation, began the practice of his profession at Gratis, Ohio, and later moved to Somerville, and continued in practice there until joining the United States Army Medical Corps at Fort Riley, from which he was assigned to Camp Harry J. Johns, Douglas, Ariz. He married Bessie Thompson, of Brown county, Ohio, a daughter of Felix and Sarah (Simkins) Thompson, of that county, the latter of whom died in 1907, while the former is a prominent jeweler. Doctor and Mrs. Beach have two children: Viola Florence and Sarah Gertrude, who, with their

mother, made their home temporarily with Doctor Beach's parents while the Doctor was located at the above camps, but later joined him at Naco, Ariz., where he is now still in the service of the U. S. The latter, in addition to the various organizations of his profession, belongs to the K. of P., at Somerville, the Order of Odd Fellows, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the United Brethren church. Durbin Ellsworth Beach was born August 30, 1893, and was educated in the public schools, being unable to pursue his studies further because of poor eyesight. He is now his father's assistant in operating the home farm. He married Maude Schooly, of Middletown, daughter of Hezekiah and Laura Schooly. Following their marriage, John Calvin Beach and his wife rented land for two years, and then bought the Weidner farm of sixty-seven acres, located in Madison township. Mr. Beach has since added to his holdings, and now has 102 acres, all in a good state of cultivation, and with modern improvements, all of which have been made by Mr. Beach. In addition, he also erected and installed all the improvements on the farm occupied by his son. Mr. Beach carries on general farming in a modern way, along the most highly approved scientific lines, and also raises mixed stock, and in each department has shown himself thoroughly qualified for his work and with a splendid knowledge of the details of agriculture. As a side line, he handles Buckeye State Mutual Fire insurance, of Covington, O., as well as business for the Ohio Mutual Tornado Insurance company. In political matters, he is independent, and prefers to choose his own candidates rather than to be guided by party mandates. He is a member of the United Brethren church and has been active in church work, and at present is serving as steward and a member of the board of trustees. Starting as a simple renter of land about thirty years ago, he has advanced steadily to the ownership of a handsome property. Notwithstanding this noteworthy success, he has the modesty and the fairness, prompted by gratitude and affection, to attribute much of his good fortune to the inspiring love and unselfish assistance of his wife. Into their home and hearts Mr. and Mrs. Beach took Beulah Beach, a cousin of Mr. Beach, who married Osle Zellors, of Dayton. She died in 1909, leaving two children: Mildred Ardella, who makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Beach; and Ermal, who was adopted by Walter Cass of Madison township.

James E. Beard (deceased) was born in Morgan township, Butler county, January 26, 1868, a son of Alfred Beard, a native Ohioan, born at Scipio. James attended school in Morgan township, and upon reaching manhood, married Guerel Cochran. She was born at Millville, and was a daughter of William and Susan Cochran. Her father is dead, and her mother resides at Millville. After their marriage, Mr. James Beard and his wife lived on the farm originally cleared and settled by Mr. Beard's grandfather. This is a farm of 204 acres, of fine soil, and beautiful appearance. Here Mr. Beard carried on farming successfully, and raised some very fine livestock. To him and his wife were born three children: Marcus W. Beard, born November 2, 1892; Susie Bell, born May 16, 1895; Gladys V., born August 31, 1898. Marcus W. Beard received his education in

the schools of Morgan township and has always resided on the Beard homestead. On October 16, 1918, he was married to Rebecca B. Dick, daughter of Isaac and Martha (Gillespie) Dick. Mrs. Beard's parents are natives of Butler county. Mr. Dick is a farmer of Ross township. Mrs. Beard is their only child, and attended school at Western college, Oxford, Ohio. Marcus W. Beard is one of the successful farmers of this section, maintaining a splendid, modern farm, upon which he raises a large number of fine hogs each year. In politics he follows his father, and is a Democrat. Mr. and Mrs. Beard are members of the Presbyterian church of Millville, and are prominent citizens of their township.

John E. Beard. Among the agriculturists of Ohio who has won a most enviable distinction because of the fact that he is truly representative of the enterprising tillers of the soil is Mr. John E. Beard of Oxford township, Butler county, and the success that he has had in operating his own farm has been in keeping with the conscientious labor entailed in developing the land to the highest point of productivity. Born in Springfield township, Franklin county, Ind., he is the son of William S. and Martha E. (Waldorf) Beard. He was educated at the Bartlow district school and Reiley High school. He engaged in the carriage business at Second and Market streets in Hamilton, Ohio, after leaving school and also gave some attention to live stock and the livery business. In these ventures he met with success and added considerable to his reputation as a man of keen business judgment who was always alive to the best interests of customers. Inherently he was fond of farm life, and accordingly, took up his abode on his present farm about six years ago and from the outset was welcomed as a most desirable neighbor by the other farmers in his section. This land, which is owned by his father, William S. Beard, unquestionably is one of the most productive tracts of its area in Butler county. The good fortune which has attended the efforts of Mr. Beard in operating this farm has been even beyond his most sanguine hopes and there is every reason to believe that the future will show more encouraging results than the past. The parents of Mr. Beard are both living in Springfield township, and had two sons, John and Francis; the latter died in infancy. The father is a substantial landowner and also manifests an active interest in matters agricultural. John married Nettie, daughter of Frank and Anna (Wilkinson) Hazeltine, of Hamilton county. He has one son, Franklin S., who is ten years old. Like so many other progressive farmers of Butler county, he took an active interest in the various World war activities and gave his time unsparingly to all movements which placed Butler county in the fore in the matter of results achieved. His loyalty to the cause of Uncle Sam and the allies was such that he was looked upon as one of the most desirable workers to be had in furthering Liberty Loan campaigns and arousing enthusiasm among the other farmers of the community. He has membership in the Elks and Moose and socially is popular.

Daniel P. Beaton. Foremost among the qualities which have made the life of Daniel P. Beaton of practical use to his fellow men

are courage and faithfulness, evidenced in many ways, and noticeable in his military service during the Civil war. In the city of Oxford, where he is a highly esteemed citizen, indebtedness is felt for his excellent management of the postoffice department from 1865 to 1888, for his splendid administration of the city's affairs in the office of mayor for twelve years, and for his conscientious and capable services rendered in his present position of city clerk. Mr. Beaton was born at No. 19 Beech street, Oxford, Ohio, September 16, 1843, a son of Alexander and Mary (McMillan) Beaton, natives of Glasgow, Scotland, who were there educated, reared and married. In his native land, Alexander Beaton followed the trade of tailor with only indifferent success, and eventually decided to try his fortune in the United States. Accordingly, in 1838, he embarked with his family for this country and after a trip of eight weeks arrived at his destination, Pittsburg, Pa. A short time later he removed by boat to Cincinnati and then came on to Oxford, where he opened a tailor shop. During the rush of the gold-seekers to California in 1849, he started for that state, going to New York and there boarding a vessel for Panama. Sickness soon broke out on board and Mr. Beaton was one of the twenty passengers who died. The mother managed to keep her family together, and lived until 1896, being eighty years of age at the time of her death and passing away in the faith of the United Presbyterian church, of which she had been a lifelong member. Of the children born to these parents, Isabelle is the widow of W. S. Crawford and resides at Redlands, Calif.; Daniel P. is the city clerk of Oxford; Mary died as the wife of W. P. McMillen; William M. was a merchant of Oxford for thirty-two years and died January 13, 1919, at the home of Daniel P., his brother, with whom he had lived; and Elizabeth married William A. Charles of San Pedro, Calif. After attending the home schools, Daniel P. Beaton was a student at Miami university during 1859 and 1860, and then took up the carpenter trade to which he applied himself for one year. At this time the Civil war came on to interrupt his career, as it did those of so many other young men and youths, and March 16, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, 86th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which organization he was sent to West Virginia. At that time he belonged to the 100-day men, and at the end of his term of service, when he was honorably discharged, he enlisted again as a veteran, in October, 1862, and served until wounded June 9, 1863, when he was shot through the right ankle joint, necessitating the amputation of his foot. For six months he lay in Somerset hospital, Kentucky, but by March, 1864, was able to make his way home, and in June, 1865, was chosen postmaster of Oxford, a position which he retained and filled with the utmost ability until March 8, 1888. Subsequently, he was elected mayor of Oxford, an office in which he was able to secure many benefits for his native city during the twelve years of his administration, and later he acted in the capacity of express agent until elected to his present office of city clerk. Throughout the period of his public service his record has been one of unswerving integrity, and conscientious performance of every duty, in which he has won and held the unqualified confidence of his

fellow-citizens. Mr. Beaton has always been a staunch Republican, but his public record and his personal qualities have served to win him friends among men of all parties and beliefs. He was married September 13, 1866, to Harriet Miller, of Oxford township, a daughter of Daniel and Johanna (Rail) Miller, who were born near Hamilton where Mr. Miller carried on agricultural operations. They were members of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which Mrs. Miller died in 1874 and her husband one year before. Of their thirteen children, four survive: Mary, who married John Burke, of Mead, Wash.; Harriet, who became Mrs. Beaton; Samantha, the widow of John Faber, living with Mr. and Mrs. Beaton; and Frank J., a farmer of Sedalia, Kans. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beaton: William M., engineer at the waterworks at Oxford for the past twenty-two years, who married Anna Farris and has five children—Monroe and Marie (twins), Daniel B., James, Harry and Harriet; Isabelle, who married Raymond Sheard, of Hamilton, and has one child—Mary E.; Mary, who died unmarried at the age of twenty years; Elizabeth, the first girl to graduate from Miami university, in 1900, who was a teacher in the public schools until her marriage to Dr. H. M. Moore, a practicing physician of Oxford; and Daniel Scott, formerly a draughtsman for the Mosler Safe company, now foreman of a safe works at Galt, Ontario, who married Lucile Schram. Mr. Beaton is an interested, valued and popular comrade of Milliken Post No. 128, G. A. R., at Oxford, and he and the members of his family belong to the United Presbyterian church.

James Beatty, deceased, came to America from Ireland at the age of twelve years. In early life he was a lover of horses and his first position after his arrival in this country, was that of "jockey"; later on and prior to the abolishment of slavery, he became superintendent of the slaves on plantations in Delaware, Maryland and other states. In Maryland, he met and married Emily Craig, of Cecil county, and then moved to Butler county, Ohio, and engaged in the contracting business. Many if not all the turnpike roads in this vicinity at that time were constructed by him. Later, he secured a contract for the construction of the Miami and Erie canal through this section, subsequently equipping and operating a line of boats plying between Cincinnati and Toledo, the only means afforded at that time for the transportation of products. In connection with this, he operated warehouses located along the canal route for facilitating shipping. He cleared a large acreage of land in Fairfield and Union townships and vicinity, in which work he had at one time more than one hundred woodchoppers engaged. With others, he organized the First National bank of Hamilton, Ohio, and for many years served as vice-president and director, during which time he also began to improve and develop the farm land he had purchased and cleared. When thirty-six years of age he suffered a paralytic stroke and also met disastrous financial reverses, involving his entire fortune and depleting his resources. About this time, with Archibald Trowbridge, he entered the pork-packing business in Cincinnati, under the company name, "The Beatty-Trowbridge com-

pany." This was one of the largest establishments of its kind at that time, and during the Civil war the concern did a large and prosperous business. This venture was developed entirely by Mr. Beatty after he became paralyzed. Trips to and from Cincinnati and his home, were made by Mr. Beatty in his buggy, and business transactions with members of the Board of Trade and Exchange were conducted from his seat in the vehicle. To Mr. Beatty and wife were born seven children: Mary Ann, Mrs. Freeman Thompson, had seven children; Alexander, married Mary Mulholland, died from illness contracted while a soldier of the Civil war; Eliza; James, married Frances Petry, had three daughters; William, married Blanch Wasson, have three daughters; Margaret, married Ayres L. Bramble, son of A. L. Bramble, pork packer, of Madisonville, Ohio. After the marriage of Ayres L. Bramble and Margaret Beatty, they made their home on a part of the Beatty farm, apportioned to Mrs. Bramble by her father, James Beatty, and they are still living on this place. Mr. Bramble had been operating a large abattoir at Plainsville, Ohio, but since his marriage he has given his attention to the farming interests of himself and his wife, and together they now hold 1,000 acres, all under the management of Mr. Bramble. To Mr. and Mrs. Bramble have been born seven children: Alice, died in infancy; Ayres B., who married Bertha Smith, of Middletown, Ohio, is superintendent of construction at the American Rolling mill; has 300 employees. He was educated at Danville, (Ky.) Military school, also Technical school; has two children, Agnes Smith and Edna Jean; Edna May, a graduate at Bartholomew's English Classical school, married James Lovett, farmer; Edwin B., died when twenty-two years of age; Geneva, a graduate of St. Joseph's academy, married Campbell Cissel, superintendent of the Occident Baking company; Alfred S., who attended the Ohio State university, married Grace Gerard, has a daughter, Dorothy; Eva, a graduate of St. Joseph's academy, married Myron Johnson, has a son, Myron G., jr.

James J. Beatty. The occupation of farming has always claimed the attention of James J. Beatty, who is now an extensive raiser of general produce and tobacco on the Yankee road, near Middletown. This progressive Butler county farmer belongs to the class of men who make a study of their vocations, and who treat them more as professions than as mere money-making occupations, and for this reason is the occupant of an influential position in his community. Also, he has interested himself in local affairs, which gives him an added hold upon the confidence of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Beatty was born on a farm in Preble county, Ohio, January 5, 1865, a son of John and Elizabeth (Flenner) Beatty. While his maternal grandmother was a native of Ohio, Andrew Flenner, his maternal grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania and came to the Buckeye state when a young man. John Beatty was born in Butler county, and passed his entire life in agricultural pursuits. As a man of industry he made a success of his ventures, while his integrity gave him high standing in the confidence of his fellow-men and his good citizenship ensured his position as a valuable member of his community. His wife was born at Four Mile, Butler county, and was a woman of

WILLIAM BEAVER AND FAMILY

many excellencies of mind and heart and a great help to him in the attainment of his success. James J. Beatty was reared under excellent home influences, on the farm, and was early taught the lessons of industry and honesty. As he grew up he attended the district school and the Overpeck school, and had no other thought than to become a farmer when he entered upon his lifework. With this end in view he familiarized himself with all matters pertaining to the successful management of a modern property, being aided therein by the kind and accurate counsel of his father, so that when he was ready to take up his independent career he had already mastered the rudiments of his chosen calling and was prepared to put them into practical demonstration. The results which he has been able to attain from his labors have fully justified all the preparation he put into perfecting himself, for he is now accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of his locality whose success has increased each season with the passing of the years. He is likewise widely known for his untiring and industrious spirit, for his strict integrity in all matters pertaining to the transactions of business life and for his hospitality in his home circle. Mr. Beatty was married March 6, 1899, to Miss Minnie Kieser, daughter of Charles P. and Frances (Mierch) Kieser, who came from Germany in 1855. On their arrival in the United States the parents of Mrs. Kieser went at once to Cincinnati, and then removed to Hamilton. At the latter place Mr. Kieser secured a position with Long & Alstatter, and by 1860 had arisen to the post of foreman. He worked for this concern for fifty-two years and was considered one of the company's most trusted employees. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beatty: Ellsworth, who is assisting his father in the work of the home place and who married Miss Laura Slonecker, of Dayton; they have one son, Robert; and Lovena, now Mrs. Samuel Brandenburg, who resides near West Elkton. Mr. Beatty's interest in public affairs in his community has been expressed in a number of practical and constructive ways, and his friendship for education is exemplified in the excellent services he has rendered for over twelve years as a member of the school board.

William Beaver. The monotony which often ensues from the continuous following of a certain line of work has never been a feature in the career of William Beaver, of Trenton. Gifted with talents of a versatile nature, this well-known and highly esteemed resident of Trenton has, at different times, followed the vocation of farmer, baker, mechanic and hotelkeeper, and at the present time is successfullly acting as a traveling salesman. Mr. Beaver also has the distinction of belonging to one of the pioneer families of the Miami valley. His grandfather, a native of Pennsylvania, was but seventeen years of age when he and another youth of like years walked from their home in the Keystone state and located in Montgomery county, Ohio, south of Dayton, and for a number of years thereafter this pioneer followed the trade of carpenter. He died in middle life when his son John B. was but a lad. The grandfather married Mary Gephart, and they had five children: Jacob, deceased; John B.; David; George, deceased; and Barbara Ann, deceased.

John B. Beaver, the father of William, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, December 17, 1842, and received his education in the common schools. He grew up as a farmer and adopted that vocation as his life work, following it until 1900, when he retired from active pursuits and since that time has been making his home with his son William. He was married in 1872 to Mary J. Gephart, who was born near Branch, Ohio, a daughter of William and Catherine Gephart, both deceased, the former of whom was a blacksmith at Fishburg, Ohio, for many years. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Beaver: William, of this review; and Frank P., who is proprietor of the Strand Hotel at Dayton, although his home is located at Miamisburg. Frank P. Beaver married Clara Rath, and they have had six children: Hazel; Ruby, deceased; Ernest, Mildred, Lawrence and Paul. William Beaver was born on a farm near Miamisburg, Montgomery county, Ohio, May 23, 1874, and spent his boyhood and youth much the same as other sons of farmers, attending school during the school terms and assisting his father in the work of the home place. When he completed his studies he learned the trade of baker, at Middletown, where he purchased the shop and conducted it for about two years. Selling out, he went to Illinois, where he was employed by the Western Wheel works, but returned eventually to Middletown and for a time was engaged in various forms of employment. In 1900 he bought a hotel in Trenton and took up his residence in this city, but in 1911 sold out in order to give all of his attention to his new vocation of traveling salesman. Among other activities in which Mr. Beaver has been engaged, he was for eleven years proprietor of a cigar factory. He is widely and favorably known, as are also the members of his family, and all are held in the warmest regard and friendship by those with whom they have come in contact. March 27, 1897, Mr. Beaver was united in marriage with Pearl Ingham, of Farmersville, Ohio, a daughter of Frank and Ellen (Taylor) Ingham. Mr. Ingham, who was a farmer, died in 1909, since which time his widow has made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Beaver. There are three children in the Beaver family: Jessie Irene, wife of James W. Quigley, general superintendent of the twelve great plants of the Patent Vulcanite Roofing company, of Chicago, one of the largest concerns in the world; Mr. and Mrs. Quigley have one son, James Watson, jr., born December 9, 1918; and Clarence C. and Robert, who reside with their parents and are attending high school. Mr. Beaver is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Improved Order of Red Men, and is a Democrat in his political faith. Both he and Mrs. Beaver are faithful members of the St. John's Evangelical church of Trenton, and have been generous in their support of religious, charitable and educational movements.

Clifford C. Becker. Among the well-known farmers of St. Clair township, Butler county, whose industry, energy and good management have placed them in comfortable circumstances and gained for them a reputable standing among their fellow-townsmen, is Clifford C. Becker, who is carrying on his vocation on what is known as the old Flickinger place. The Becker family has been identified with

Butler county since 1856, in which year it was founded here by John Peter Becker, the grandfather of Clifford C. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, November 6, 1828, and by his first marriage had two children, one of whom is William Becker, a resident of California. For his second wife he married, in 1856, Mrs. Henrietta Arnbold Miller, widow of William Miller, and they had three children: Henrietta, who died single, born September 6, 1858; Matilda, born July 11, 1863, the widow of John Kurzega of Cincinnati, with three children—Alma, Ella and Otto; and John R., the father of Clifford C. Shortly after his second marriage, in 1856, John Peter Becker emigrated to the United States and started work at the wagon making trade in Fairfield township, Butler county. He also occupied himself at the blacksmith's trade, and had an interest in a canal-boat venture, but in 1863 turned his attention to agricultural pursuits on the William B. Smalley farm, and in 1865 bought 165 acres of land, to which he subsequently added by purchase until he had 240 acres. He was sixty-nine years of age at the time of his death in 1896, and one of the highly respected men of the community, and a faithful member of the German Lutheran church. His widow survived him until some years later and was eighty-one years old at the time of her demise, at Cincinnati. John R. Becker, father of Clifford C., was born August 6, 1865, on the Middletown pike in Butler county and was educated in the common schools. As a youth he learned the machinist's trade, at which he was employed both in his own community, on Staten Island and in Pennsylvania. February 26, 1896, he married Amelia Rapp, of Cincinnati, Ohio, daughter of Christian and Ida (Huelsen) Rapp, the former of whom was born at Birbach, Germany, in 1838, and the latter in Riesenburgh, Prussia. They met and were married at Cincinnati, where Mr. Rapp was in the retail liquor business until his death in 1891, and his widow now makes her home with her children. They belonged to the Lutheran church and had six children: Bertha, who lives at Cincinnati; Fred, connected with the Chamber of Commerce at Connersville, Ind.; Amelia, who became Mrs. Becker; George, a coal dealer of Cincinnati; Ida, the wife of Robert Hiltbrand, a Butler county farmer; and Emma, who married John L. Becker, a tinsmith of Hamilton. At the time of his marriage, John R. Becker located on the present family home in St. Clair township, known as the old Flickinger place, and here died September 1, 1915. He was an independent voter and a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 459, at Seven Mile, which he joined at the time of its organization as a charter member. He was a man of high character and marked integrity and well merited the respect and confidence in which he was universally held. The only child of his parents, Clifford C. Becker was born November 30, 1896, and received his education in the home schools at Seven Mile. He has always lived on the home place and followed farming, although his natural mechanical ability, doubtless inherited from his father and grandfather, has led him to pay some attention to this line, and for several years he has operated a threshing outfit. Although still a young man, he has made marked progress, and has shown splendid

ability in carrying on general farming and stock raising operations on the home place, which is a splendidly improved tract of 184 acres. He is well known in his party, and his popularity is evidenced by his host of friends. Mr. Becker was married April 9, 1919, to Sallie Walker, of Harrison, Ohio, daughter of J. P. and Nancy Walker, retired agricultural people of Hamilton.

Charles L. Beckett. Butler county has many fine farms, and they are owned to a large extent by members of old families of the Miami valley. In Hanover township, a part of the old Beckett farm is owned by Charles L. Beckett, one of the enterprising and well-to-do agriculturists of this locality. Mr. Beckett has been the architect of his own fortunes, and has earned his present possessions through honest effort, ordinary prudence and the exercise of natural good judgment. He was born on the homestead place in Hanover township, and is the only son of John C. and Sarah L. (Brosier) Beckett. Educated in the local schools, when he laid aside his studies he began working for his father, but after his marriage, in 1893, began farming on his own account on his present property, a farm of ninety-one acres, which he purchased from his parents. Here he has been successful in his operations as a farmer and raiser of live stock, and has taken much pride in his surroundings, his buildings of all kinds being attractive and substantial. A friend of the public schools, he has served efficiently in the capacity of member of the board of education, and his good citizenship was also shown when he acted as captain in war drives. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist church. Mr. Beckett was married in 1893 to Mamie A., daughter of Robert and Martha E. (Watt) Harris, farming people of Milford township, Butler county, Mr. Harris being a Union veteran of the Civil war. Mrs. Beckett has one brother, Alva, who is engaged in farming in Hanover township. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beckett: Nellie E., formerly a student at Miami university, who is now engaged in teaching school and is becoming very popular as an educator; Orveda, who attended school at Miami university, and is now the wife of Joseph W. Fichter, principal of Hanover township centralized school, with one child, Jean Marie; Marguerite, who is the wife of Charles Shafer, engaged in farming in Hanover township, with one daughter, Sarah Jane; and John, who is assisting his father in the cultivation of the home farm. The children have been carefully reared and well educated, and have gone to fill stations in life in which they are reflecting credit upon their parents and their community.

The Beckett Paper Company. In order to present the facts regarding the inception of the Beckett Paper company, it is necessary to delve nearly three-quarters of a century into the business history of Hamilton. In the year 1848, one Reilly, from the east, came to Hamilton and secured a site at the corner of Buckeye and Lowell streets, where he commenced the construction of a paper mill. With him Reilly brought two millwrights, John L. and Frank Martin, and a Scotch paper maker, Adam Laurie. The two Martins had charge of the erection of the structure and it was

stipulated that Laurie was to run the mill after its completion. However, when not much more than the foundations had been completed, Reilly got into financial difficulties, failed, quit the town and left the Martins and Laurie stranded. These men consulted William Beckett, at that time a successful practicing attorney of Hamilton, with the result that Mr. Beckett interested F. D. Rigdon, another Hamilton lawyer, and they, with the Martins, formed what proved to be the beginning of the present Beckett Paper company, under the firm style of Beckett, Martin & Rigdon. Adam Laurie was retained as foreman. In 1850 Mr. Beckett purchased the interests of the two Martins and the firm style was changed to Beckett & Rigdon. Two years later a second machine was added, the business having grown to such an extent that such a move was found necessary, and in 1854 Adam Laurie bought an eighth interest in the concern. In 1862 or 1863 Mr. Rigdon retired, the firm style at that time becoming Beckett & Laurie, and this later was changed to Beckett, Laurie & company when Adam Laurie, jr., in 1870, was taken into partnership. Under their auspices, Thomas Beckett had his training, and in 1885 he was taken into the firm. The Becketts then bought the Laurie interests and at that time the Beckett Paper company was incorporated with $100,000 capital. The mill was subsequently rebuilt, new machines and engines were installed which had been built by Hamilton concerns, and from that time on the business grew steadily. Improvements continued to be made, however, in paper making machinery and several years ago Mr. Beckett again decided to reconstruct the entire mill. This was done in 1906, the old machinery being entirely scrapped and the building razed to make room for the present structure. At the present time the Beckett Paper company has the finest equipment of its kind to be found in the country, and the purchase of this large amount of machinery from Hamilton companies attested to the worth of their product installed twenty years earlier. In 1913 a third story was added to the mill to enable the company to take care of the rapidly growing business and the end is not yet. The company lost heavily in the flood of March, 1913, but was able to resume operations in April, and at that time a "Flood Bulletin" was sent to the company's customers and dealers all over the country, in which occurred these words: "We got pretty wet when the Miami rose last March. It was eight feet deep on the main floor. But it did not get high enough to dampen our enthusiasm." Which may be called a pretty good Butler county sentiment.

Clyde S. and Ralph K. Beeler. A name that is indissolubly associated with the drug business at Hamilton, is that of Beeler. Practically from the close of the Civil war, men of one family bearing this name have been the proprietors of pharmacies, and their activities have been carried on in such a manner as to make the name stand for integrity and honorable dealing in every particular. At present the representatives of this family and business are Clyde S. and Ralph K. Beeler, who are conducting a large and well-patronized establishment under the style of Beeler Drug company. These brothers are sons of S. L. and Sarah Bachelor

(Kennedy) Beeler, natives of Hamilton county, Ohio, the former born at Sharon and the latter at Montgomery. S. L. Beeler was still attending the graded schools when the Civil war came on, but a short time after his graduation therefrom managed to be accepted as an enlisted soldier in the Union army, and fought bravely until being wounded at the battle of Winchester. After receiving his honorable discharge, he resumed his education, and after taking a course at the Ohio Medical college, at Cincinnati, was given his diploma as a graduate physician. At that time he came to Hamilton and engaged in the drug business, in partnership with his brother, they purchasing what was then known as the Hanaford Drug store, on Main and B streets. This establishment was known for a quarter of a century as Beeler Brothers, and continued as such until the retirement of the brothers from active participation in business affairs. Doctor Beeler, as S. L. Beeler was universally known, died in 1910. He was a Spencerian student, and in politics was originally a Republican, but, as a Free Trader, during Cleveland's campaign, and on account of the tariff issue, he became a Democrat. He was also one of the early followers of the doctrines of Henry George. At all times a public-spirited citizen, he served Hamilton capably as a member of the city council, and in various other ways contributed to its welfare and advancement. Mrs. Beeler still survives her husband. They were the parents of five children: Emma, who died in infancy; John M., assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Hamilton, married Winnifred Fox and has two children: Ralph K.; Helen Grace, the wife of G. S. Helvey, manager of the Miami Foundry company, of Miamisburg, with two children; and Clyde S. Clyde S. Beeler was born April 30, 1883, and after attending the Hamilton graded and high schools became a student at the Ohio State university, from which he was graduated in 1903. At that time he entered business with his father on Main and B streets, and remained with him until the elder man's death, September 24, 1910, following which he continued in the drug business alone until 1915. In that year he formed a partnership with his brother, Ralph K., and this business has since been known as Beeler Drug company. Mr. Beeler was married October 27, 1917, to Miss Adela Schwartz, daughter of J. C. and Pauline (Windsich) Schwartz, also of Hamilton, Ohio. During the war period Clyde S. Beeler was chairman of the Butler County Food Administration. He is widely known in business circles as one of Hamilton's energetic and resourceful merchants, and is a valued member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants association. He also has several other civic connections, and belongs to the Hamilton club and the Butler County Country club. Ralph K. Beeler was born at Hamilton, October 15, 1874, and received his early education in the graded and high schools of his native city, following which he took a course in the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy. Upon receiving his diploma, he began teaching chemistry and physics in the Hamilton high school and continued as an educator for two and one-half years. April 6, 1898, he was married to Mary Hughes, daughter of Frank M. Hughes of Butler county, and following their

union went to Chicago, where they resided for four years. Returning to Hamilton, Mr. Beeler purchased a drug business from John C. Schwartz, at No. 134 High street, and conducted it from 1903 until 1915, in the latter year forming a partnership with his brother, Clyde S. Beeler. The Schwartz business was then moved to Second and High streets and combined with the former establishment. Mr. Beeler resides in his own home at No. 379 S. D street, which he built. He is an excellent business man, with a high standing in trade circles, and an active member of the Retail Merchants' association and the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. and Mrs. Beeler are the parents of two children: Hughes, aged nineteen years; and Francis, aged eleven years, the former a graduate of the local schools and now attending the Ohio State university, at Columbus.

Adam Beiser. In a history of the prominent and influential citizens of Butler county, Adam Beiser is well deserving of mention, for his well spent life, his ability, his loyalty to public duty and his fidelity in private life have all gained him a place among the leading residents of Collinsville. While he is retired from active agricultural pursuits, in which he was for many years engaged, he is still active in the affairs of his locality, and while residing at Collinsville is a member of the board of township trustees of Milford township. Mr. Beiser was born January 1, 1854, at Mauchenheim, Rhine Province, Germany, a son of Jacob and Anna Mary (Lingler) Beiser. Jacob Beiser was born in 1814, in Bavaria, Germany, where he was a small farmer and grain dealer, but in 1867 brought his wife and eight children to the United States. Long previous to this time, however, the name had been represented in Hamilton community, for one of Jacob Beiser's brothers, George, had emigrated to this country in 1836 in a sailing vessel, and for years drove a stagecoach between Hamilton and Cincinnati, and finally secured a farm near Port Union, in which community he was well and favorably known. After coming to the United States, Jacob Beiser began to work for a farmer on the Middletown pike, where he remained five years, subsequently securing possession of the Strasser place, in Milford township, Butler county, where he passed the remainder of his career and died April 27, 1894, his wife having passed away at Hamilton at the age of forty-eight years. They were faithful members of St. John's Lutheran church, at Hamilton, and the parents of eight children: Jacob, a farmer at Crestonville, Ohio, who died in 1918; Lewis, a retired baker of Hamilton; Adam; George, a blacksmith of Chicago, Ill.; Philip, a grocer of Symmes Corners, Ohio; Eva, the wife of Philip Stepp, of Cleveland; Barbara, the wife of Andy Rahtgeber, Crestonville; and Mary, deceased, who was the wife of the late Conrad Kalpfleisch. To the public schools of his home community in Germany, Adam Beiser was indebted for his educational training, for after he came to the United States, at the age of thirteen years, his youth was one filled with hard work and he had little opportunity to improve his knowledge by attending school. He remained under the parental roof until reaching the age of twenty-one years, and was married November 26, 1874, to Louisa, daughter of Conrad and Anna Maria (Hoffman)

Bauer, natives of Bavaria. The Bauers came to the United States in 1851 and located on a farm near Hamilton, Mr. Bauer also working in Hanover and Wayne townships. He died in 1890 and his wife in 1894, both as faithful members of Mount Zion Evangelical Lutheran church, Hamilton. They were the parents of six children: Mrs. Beiser; Conrad, a retired farmer of Collinsville; George and John, who both died young; Fred, a farmer and stockman who married Anna Smoyer; and Mary Ann, who married Samuel Niederman, of Ross township, Butler county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beiser: Philip, operating the old homestead, who married Mabel Shephard and has three children: Ralph, Thelma and Carroll; Conrad, formerly a resident of Hamilton, but now a farmer of Hanover township, who married Della Crooker and has one son—Arthur; William, formerly a farmer, but now with the Niles Tool works at Hamilton, who married Emma Dome and has one child—Mary Louise; Anna Mary, the wife of Earl Brown of Seven Mile, with one son—Allen Charles; and Bertha, the wife of Edgar Truster, a farmer of Collinsville, with two sons—Roy and Marion. Following his marriage, Adam Beiser located on a farm in Milford township, where he became a prominent farmer and influential citizen, and served for ten years as a member of the school board. After fifteen years of successful agricultural operation in that township, he removed to Hanover township, which continued to be his home for six years, and where he also was on the school board, being a member thereof for two years. Eventually, Mr. Beiser bought a property consisting of 131 acres in Wayne township, the old home place, on which he put all the present buildings and made numerous other improvements. In addition to doing general farming, he raised first Shorthorn cattle and later Polled Durham cattle, and Poland China and Duroc Jersey Red hogs. In 1906, feeling that through his years of labor he had earned a rest, he transferred the burdens of farm work to younger shoulders and moved to Collinsville, which has since been his home. As before noted, he is at present serving faithfully and capably in the office of trustee of Milford township. He has always taken a keen interest in political matters, and votes the Democratic ticket. With the members of his family, he belongs to St. John's Lutheran church. Mr. Beiser is widely known in Butler county, where he has many friends, admirers and well-wishers.

Louis H. Beiser was born in Germany, April 20, 1859, son of Valentine and Mary (Wilig) Beiser. When Louis was fourteen years of age, he came to this country accompanied by his brother, Valentine, sixteen years old. The brothers settled in Hamilton, Ohio, but after a brief sojourn in that city, Louis went to Union township and engaged as a farmhand, and eventually chose the vocation of farming as his life work. In 1884, he was married to Elizabeth Spangenberger, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Spangenberger, and after his marriage, removed with his bride to Fairfield township, where he continued working on his farm. In 1915, he purchased a tract of seventy-five acres, thus becoming a farm owner as well as a farm worker. The same year, the people

of the township honored him in an election to the office of trustee, the duties of which he performed very satisfactorily. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beiser: Arthur, married Edna Friedman, daughter Frank Friedman, and has one child, Arthur; and Luella, deceased. Mr. Beiser was active in the solicitation for funds in the various war drives and rendered splendid service in that connection. He has achieved much success in life, and that, too, in spite of seemingly insurmountable obstacles encountered in the earlier years of his life. In politics Mr. Beiser is a Democrat.

Philip Beiser, Symmes Corner, in Fairfield township, Butler county, claims a due contingent of well ordered business establishments, and one of the most important of these is the well equipped grocery store of Philip Beiser, whose fair and honorable dealings and personal popularity, as combined with the effective service rendered, have conspired to evolve for him a substantial and profitable mercantile enterprise. Mr. Beiser was born in Germany, in December, 1858, and was an infant at the time when his parents, Jacob and Mary (Lingler) Beiser, severed the ties that bound them to their fatherland and emigrated to the United States. This worthy couple established their home at Hamilton, Butler county, soon after their arrival in the land of their adoption, and Jacob Beiser became one of the sterling pioneer farmers of Fairfield township, where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, secure in the high esteem of all who knew them. The names of their children are here entered in respective order of birth: Jacob, jr., Louis, Adam, George, Philip, Barbara, Mrs. Rathgeber, Mary, Mrs. Kalbfleisch, and Eva, Mrs. Stepp. Reuben Kellner, a grandson of Mrs. Barbara Rathgeber, served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France during the World war, as one of the contingent of young patriots who went forth from Butler county, Ohio. The early educational advantages of Philip Beiser were those afforded in the public schools of Hamilton, and after leaving school he learned the baker's trade, to which he devoted his attention for a period of eight years, during which time he maintained his residence at Hamilton. His marriage occurred in 1884 and thereafter he and his wife continued their residence in Hamilton until 1918, when they removed to Symmes Corner, where Mr. Beiser has since conducted a prosperous grocery business, the rapid growth of the enterprise indicating the high estimate placed upon him by the community. Mr. Beiser is known as a loyal and public-spirited citizen, and his patriotism was significantly shown during the period of America's participation in the World war, as he served on various committees that had supervision of the vigorous Butler county drives in support of the various governmental loans and for the sale of war-savings stamps. He was one of the leaders in this patriotic service in his county, and his service reflects enduring honor upon him. Mr. Beiser is a Democrat in his political allegiance, he and his wife are earnest communicants of St. John's Evangelical church, and he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and

various benevolent organizations. In 1884 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Beiser to Miss Eva Spies, a daughter of William and Eva (Kraft) Spies, well-known citizens in the vicinity of Marietta, Washington county. A fitting close to this brief review is the following record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. Beiser: Mabel Frances is the wife of George O. Betscher, of Hamilton; Clifford Earl, married Selma Waldrick, and they have two children,—Eva and Donald; Carl Wilhelm, whose death occurred November 6, 1918, married Miss Anna Tritsch, who survives him, as do also their two sons,—Eugene Philip and Frederick Carl; Edwin Eugene assists in the operations of his father's store and is still an eligible young man; Walter James, who resides at Hamilton, married Miss Marie Pfoffman and they have two children,—Arnold and Eldon; and Philip Stanley died at the age of two years.

Edgar A. Belden. In the person of Edgar A. Belden, who has practised so long and so ably at the Hamilton bar, is linked the Hamilton of the past and the present. He has been alike a successful and distinguished attorney and a just, dignified and impartial judge, and in addition is a practical man of affairs, skillful, farseeing and reformatory, and an originator of actualities as well as a founder of good and new movements. Judge Belden was born at Hamilton, November 28, 1855, a son of Samuel C. and Mary (Fitton) Belden. His father was born in Massachusetts, November 29, 1815, and as a young man removed to Hamilton, where he became one of the successful business men of his adopted city, his energies and abilities for many years being exercised in the manufacture of brooms. His death, in 1885, when he was seventy years of age, removed from his city one of its capable business men and public-spirited citizens. Mrs. Belden, a member of the old and honored Fitton family, was born in Butler county, and died in 1868, when but thirty-eight years of age. They were the parents of: James F., for many years in the dry goods business in the employ of the D. W. Fitton company; Horace T., a man of splendid business qualities, and teller in the First National bank of Hamilton, who died in 1876, at the age of twenty-two years; Edgar A.; William C., born in 1858, and educated at Hamilton, who in 1882, went to California and purchased a fruit farm, was elected in 1902 as judge of the court of San Bernardino county, Cal., is married and has two children; and Webster A., born at Hamilton in 1860, who has spent his career in that city as a manufacturer, and is the father of three children. Edgar A. Belden attended the public schools of Hamilton and was graduated from the high school in the class of 1872, shortly after which he went to Cincinnati and for about six years was a clerk in the offices of the Union Central Life Insurance company. In 1879 he resigned to take up the study of law under the preceptorship of Hon. Thomas Millikin, one of Hamilton's most prominent attorneys, and was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of the state, February 2, 1881. He at once entered active practice at his native place and soon had built up a large and gratifying clientele, which has increased in size and importance with

the passing of the years. From the time of the attainment of his majority, Judge Belden has given his allegiance to the Republican party. In November, 1901, he was elected to the bench of the court of common pleas for a term of five years. While the district in which he was a candidate was normally Democratic by a large majority, many of the voters cast aside partisan preferences because of Judge Belden's well-known ability, integrity and entire fitness for service, with the result that he secured a majority of more than 700 votes over his opponent. His course on the bench was marked by justice and wisdom, and his decisions were seldom appealed and rarely reversed. Fraternally, Judge Belden is identified with the Royal Arcanum and the National Union. He has been connected with the Y. M. C. A. since its organization, serving as president thereof for the first five years of its existence, and is a consistent and valued member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1886, with other graduates of the Hamilton High school, he was instrumental in effecting the organization of the High School Alumni association. May 22, 1888, at Hamilton, Judge Belden was united in marriage with Elisa M., daughter of Lucius B. and Mary B. Potter, of Hamilton, and to this union there have been born two children: Horace and Lucia.

James E. Bell. Few men are better or more favorably known in the enterprising community of Seven Mile than James E. Bell. He has been an important factor in financial circles, and his success in his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. His advancement in business since the beginning of his residence at Seven Mile has been uniform and he has perservered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and gained a most satisfactory reward, his position as cashier of the Farmers National bank of Seven Mile giving him prestige among business men of this locality. Mr. Bell was born at Statesville, Tenn., a son of Edward and Margaret (Boyd) Bell, and is of Scotch-Irish lineage. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Bell, natives of Maryland, emigrated to Kentucky as young people and passed the remainder of their lives there. In that state was born Edward Bell, who, following his four years of service in the Union army during the Civil War, went to Tennessee and engaged in business at Statesville, where he acted in the capacity of postmaster. He was married in Kentucky and subsequently went to Marion county, Ill., where for several years he was engaged in farming, but later returned to Kentucky, and for the balance of his life was engaged in farming in Mason county and in conducting a butcher business at Germantown. His widow survives him and resides at that place. They were the parents of four children: James E., of this review; Thomas H., cashier of the Bank of Trenton, Ohio; Mrs. Mattie Guy, of Germantown, Ky.; and W. B., cashier of the Bank of Somerville, Ohio. James E. Bell received a common school education and after graduating from the high school at Flemingsburg, Ky., engaged in farming on the home place. He was married March 28, 1894, to Anna E., daughter of Benjamin and Mollie (Rhoten) Kirkland, of Fleming county, Ky., whose uncle, William Rhoten,

was a soldier of the Union during the war between the states. Following his marriage, Mr. Bell continued to farm for six years, and then became mail contractor, a position which he held seven years, at Germantown. Leaving Germantown, Mr. Bell went to Trenton, where he was identified with the Bank of Trenton until 1909, when he came to Seven Mile, and August 19 of that year became cashier of the Farmers National bank, which was founded October 1, 1909, by his brother, Thomas H. Bell. Mr. Bell has continued to hold this position ever since, and has built up a reputation that has made his name a synonym for integrity and probity in the business world, while the substantiality of the institution with which he is connected is everywhere acknowledged in banking circles, the enterprise having made a most creditable record throughout the eleven years of its existence. Mr. Bell is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias and has numerous friends in both orders. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a supporter of worthy movements pertaining to religious and educational advancement. During the war period he took a prominent part in the various drives and assisted materially in arousing public interest and enthusiasm.

Samuel Bell. Although the memory of the roar of cannon, of the glitter of bayonets and the depressing conditions of an army hospital has been drowned somewhat in the later peace of agricultural pursuits, the service of Samuel Bell in the Civil war remains the paramount and most absorbing experience in the life of this honored soldier and farmer of Madison township, Butler county. At the time of his enlistment he was just entering upon man's estate, and the discipline and hardships of the army broadened his outlook and gave him an increased understanding of the responsibilities of life that later were to prove of incalculable value to him. Mr. Bell was born near Piqua, O., October 14, 1843, a son of John and Elizabeth (Riggle) Bell, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio as a young married couple and bought land near Piqua. This property was nearly all covered with heavy timber, but was eventually cleared and cultivated, and upon it the father passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits and died at the age of eighty-one years. His first wife died in 1849, having been the mother of nine children: Henry, who died in 1913 after many years of residence in Darke county, Ohio; David, who served in the 100-day service during the Civil war, and later died in Ross county, O.; Mary, Catherine and Betsy, who are deceased; Samuel; Susan, who is deceased; Hannah, who married William Schlobiz, of Madison township; and John, deceased. Mr. Bell's second marriage was to Rachael Cummings, and they had four children: Amos, a ranchman of California; Ida, who lives in Darke county, O.; and Orlin and Artie, residents of Richmond, Ind. The family belongs to the United Brethren church. Samuel Bell grew up amid pioneer surroundings, and still has a vivid recollection of the heavy timber that stood on the homestead. His education was confined to attendance at the old log district schoolhouse, to reach which he was compelled to walk three miles, and upon his arrival he would sit on a puncheon bench

MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL BELL—LEVI GEPHART

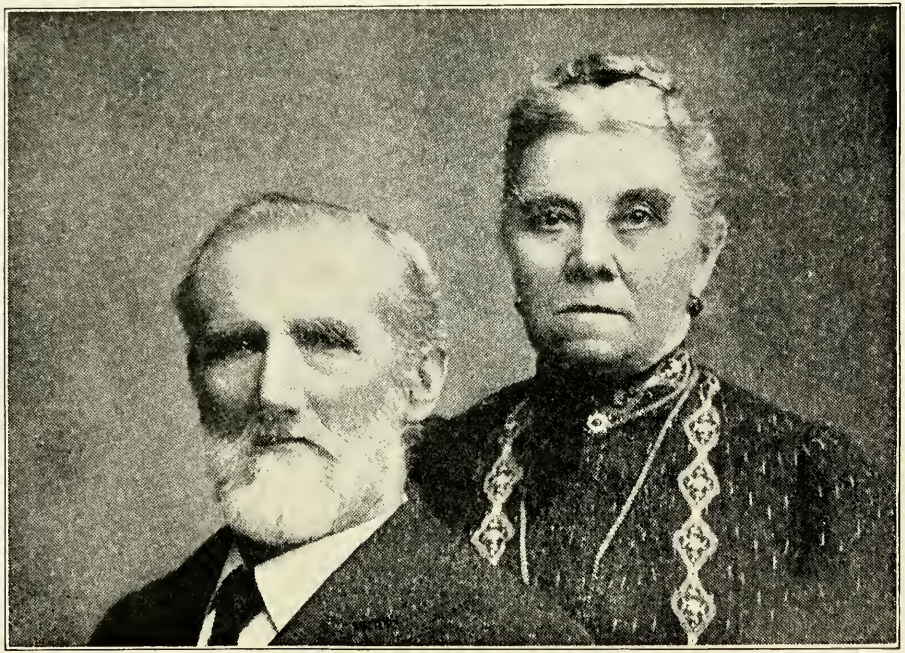
THOMAS H. BELL

while perfecting himself in the "three R's." When not attending school, he was usually engaged in helping his father and brothers in the farm work, and thus his boyhood and youth were passed. He reached the age of twenty-one years in 1864, and in the winter of that year enlisted in the Union army, joining Company A, 73d regiment, O. V. I., at Kingston, O. He was sent to Chattanooga, Tenn., where his regiment joined the command of General Hooker, and subsequently took part in the battles of Buzzards Roost, Burnt Hickory, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, the siege of Atlanta, Kenesaw Mountain, and numerous skirmishes. Mr. Bell contracted typhoid fever and for some time was confined to the hospital, but eventually recovered and rejoined his command, and went through Alabama and North Carolina with General Sherman. At the time of General Lee's surrender, the 73d Ohio was near Goldsboro, N. C., whence it marched 600 miles to Washington, D. C., and took part in the Grand Review. In July, 1865, Mr. Bell was sent to Louisville, Ky., and received his honorable discharge at Camp Denison. Following the war he returned to his home for one year, and then came to Madison township, Butler county, where he was married in 1867 to Miss Sarah Gephart, of Butler county, a daughter of Daniel Gephart, a farmer of Madison township, where he died. Mrs. Bell died in the fall of 1915, having been the mother of the following children: Ed, who is engaged in farming in Madison township; Daniel, deceased, who was also a farmer; John, who has also passed away after some years in agricultural pursuits; Elmer, a Madison township farmer, who married Virda Isabell, and has five children, —Alice, Stella, Thelma, Renie and Opal; and William and Iva, who are deceased. Two years after his marriage, Mr. Bell settled on Brown's Run, in Madison township, where he bought 160 acres, a part of the Peter Gephart property, and to this has since added sixteen acres. He has made all of the improvements on the place, which is now modern in aspect and actuality. Mr. Bell is a general farmer, raising tobacco and all kinds of grain, and through industry and good management has made a success of his operations. In spite of his advanced years he is well preserved and active and takes a keen interest in local matters. He is a Republican and has held township offices. With his family, he belongs to the Baptist church. Mr. Bell is one of the highly respected men of his community, and during his long career has never failed to exhibit a high order of citizenship.

Thomas H. Bell. In Thomas H. Bell, the thriving community of Trenton has a citizen of recognized worth and standing who has contributed to its financial strength and prestige as well as to its civic development and importance. A resident of this community since 1907 he has allied himself with the interests that have made for community strength and stability and as cashier of the Bank of Trenton has impressed his ability and integrity upon the people in a way that has gained their confidence and esteem. Mr. Bell was born in Marion county, Ill., September 30, 1874, a son of Edward and Margaret (Boyd) Bell, of Scotch-Irish lineage. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Bell, natives of Maryland, emigrated to Ken-

tucky, where they passed the remainder of their lives. In that state was born Edward W. Bell, who, following his service of four years in the Union army during the Civil war, went to Tennessee and engaged in business at Statesville, where he acted in the capacity of postmaster. He was married in Kentucky and subsequently went to Marion county, Ill., where for several years he was engaged in farming, but later returned to Kentucky, and for the balance of his life was engaged in farming in Mason county and in conducting a meat business at Germantown. His widow survives him and resides at the place last mentioned. They were the parents of four children: James E., cashier of the Bank of Seven Mile, Ohio; Thomas H.; Mrs. Mattie Guy, of Germantown, Ky.; and W. B., cashier of the Bank of Somerville, Ohio. Thomas H. Bell secured his education in the public schools of Fleming county, Ky., and his business preparation at a commercial college. He devoted himself principally in farming until 1905, when he entered the Bank of Germantown, Ky., and after two years came to Trenton, February 4, 1907, and organized the Bank of Trenton, of which he has since been cashier. In 1909 he was the organizer of the Bank of Seven Mile, and in 1910 of the Bank of Somerville, but although he was the main factor in the organization of all three of these institutions, is interested at this time only in the Bank of Trenton. He has assisted in making this a strong and substantial banking house, and through his conservative, although progressive, methods has gained and held the full faith of the people and succeeded in securing an annual addition to the deposits. He is a valued member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. During the participation of the United States in the great World war, Mr. Bell's abilities were enlisted in various war activities, he being chairman of the various drives, including the Red Cross and Liberty Bond, and local chairman of the Y. M. C. A. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. May 27, 1908, at Trenton, Mr. Bell was united in marriage with Mary, daughter of W. O. and Lou H. Dimmitt, of Germantown, Ky., the former of whom is now a resident of Trenton. Four children have come to them: Louise M., born in 1909; William H., born in 1911; Margaret E., born in 1914; and Thomas Henry, born in 1917.

Major John F. Bender, a retired contractor of Hamilton, has the distinction of being one of the pioneers of Butler county, and he is a man known all over the Miami valley for his probity of character and high principles. He was born in the Rhine Province, Germany, September 28, 1830, a son of Frederick W. and Catherine (Diehl) Bender, both natives of Germany. They realized the limitations of their native land, and desiring to get away from the oppressive rule of the Prussian military element, they came to the United States in January, 1855, making the then long and dangerous voyage on a sailing vessel, and after their arrival in this land of promise, came west to Ohio, stopping first at Cincinnati, but later removing to Hamilton. The good old grandfather, Peter Bender, had been active in military affairs, serving in the war against Holland, and although he was eighty-five years old at the time of



MR. AND MRS. J. F. BENDER

his death, he was so active that he was working, up to within two weeks of his demise. After the Bender family were settled at Hamilton, Frederick Bender, who was a practical carpenter and builder, looked about him to see in what way he could best use his knowledge and he and his brothers, William and Ernest, erected a planing mill, a frame structure, later replacing it with a four-story brick one, with a basement, affording room for the employment of 150 workmen. They also developed a large contracting business and erected all of the principal buildings at Hamilton during their time, including those occupied by the Ohio Nail, Tool and Pump works, the Mosler Safe company, the McNeil & Urban Safe works, the Myers Manufacturing company, three large schools and many others. The extensive plant of the pulp mills, which turns out annually a product valued at $300,000 was also built by these brothers. At first the firm was Bender Bros. Later Frederick W. Bender took his sons into partnership, buying out the others, and operating under the name of Bender & Sons. After his death, the firm became J. F. Bender & Bros. In 1867, Frederick W. Bender died, aged sixty-seven, his wife surviving him until 1891, when she passed away, aged eighty-six years. While living in Germany, Frederick W. Bender gave to his native land the compulsory three years of military service. He and his excellent wife were consistent members of the Lutheran church. Their children were as follows: John F., whose name heads this review; Conrad, who is deceased, was a carpenter; William F., who is now living retired, was at one time interested in the paper mill; Peter, who was formerly a druggist, went to California, and is now a ranch owner of that state; Jacob, who was a hat manufacturer, is now deceased; John, who was a bookkeeper, is deceased, and he married Lena Martin; Catherine, who married George Iutzi, a retired farmer of Hamilton, Ohio, is now deceased; Lizzie, who is married, lives with her son on the Darrtown pike; Ernestine, who is unmarried, lives at Hamilton, O.; Ernest, who was a carpenter, went to California, and there died; Philimena, who was married, is deceased and so is Henry, her husband. John F. Bender came to the United States when he was twenty-five years old after completing his period of military service in the Prussian army. He had learned the carpenter trade under his father's supervision, and locating at Hamilton, found employment for his skill. Later he went into business with his father and brothers, and became one of the leading contractors of the Miami valley. April 16, 1857, Mr. Bender was united in marriage with Miss Mary Elizabeth Herdegan, born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Bender have three adopted children, who were born to a sister of Mrs. Bender, and to them they have given a loving and parental care. They are as follows: Simon Kronester, who was associated in business with Mr. Bender for many years, and has succeeded to his interests. He was married to Minnie Heiser, and their children are as follows: Marcella, who married Albert Henneberger, has one child,—Jane; Helen, Alma and Adelia, who are at home; and Paul, who died at the age of nine years. The second adopted child of Mr. and Mrs. Bender is Barbara, who

married Conrad Erbeck, a carpenter of Hamilton, Ohio, and their children are as follows: Edwin, who is a farmer; Alvin, who is a carpenter; Robert, Martha and Arthur, attending school. The third adopted child of Mr. and Mrs. Bender is Elizabeth, and she has always resided with her adopted parents.. In addition to his extensive contracting operations, Mr. Bender found time to serve as the head of the Hamilton Brick company, and as trustee of the Snyder Preserve works, of which he is part owner, and of late years he has invested to a considerable extent in farm lands in Butler county. Zion Evangelical church of Hamilton has long held his membership, and benefits from his generous contributions. Since casting his first vote, Mr. Bender has very strongly supported the candidates of the Republican party, and if he had so desired, could very probably have had any office within the gift of his neighbors, but he has never had political aspirations. Like so many of the Germans of his age, Mr. Bender served his adopted country during the Civil war, his former military training coming into good stead in the new land. He enlisted in the Ohio National Guards, and was advanced to the rank of major under Colonel Moore. His period of service expiring, he was mustered out in Virginia, in 1864. Since the organization of the Hamilton Post, G. A. R., Mr. Bender has been one of its active members. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bender stand very high in public esteem. During the many years they have resided at Hamilton they have seen it develop along all lines, and have borne their part in this remarkable growth.

David A. Bevis, son of David and Axsher (Stout) Bevis, was born in Colerain township, Hamilton county, Ohio, September 19, 1857. The father, David, was also born in Colerain township. The latter was the son of Jesse Bevis, who came from England and was one of the pioneers of this section, who experienced all the inconveniences and suffered the deprivations and hardships undergone by those sturdy old settlers. Oliver, a brother of David, sr., was a soldier in the War of Rebellion and gave his life in the service of his country. David A., subject of this sketch, was the eleventh child in a family of twelve children, and received his education at College Hill, Colerain township, and on completion of his schooling, he began the occupation of a farmer. In 1883, he was married to Cora Bosserman, daughter of George and Alvira (Jacques) Bosserman, one of whose nephews, Charles Bosserman, served with distinction with the U. S. army in France. Until 1913, Mr. Bevis was engaged in farming in Hamilton county, when he removed to Ross township, Butler county, where he purchased a fine farm of ninety-seven acres, which he has made a very notable success and to which he still devotes his time and energy. The home-life of Mr. and Mrs. Bevis is especially charming and elevating and such as can but exert a good influence throughout the entire community. To them it is also most gratifying that the three sons born to them —Rolland, Normund and Emery—are not only successfully solving business affairs but are the heads of happy contented homes. Normund, a graduate of the seminary at Dayton, Ohio, is a prominent minister of the United Brethren church and lives at Union City,

Ind. Emery, born November 2, 1892, after graduating from the common and high schools and the Mechanic's institute, of Cincinnati, was for three years engaged in mercantile pursuits which were given up for farm work. In 1915, he was married to Frieda Harmony, daughter of George and Libbian Harmony, of Colerain township, and now has in charge a fine farm of sixty-three acres. Rolland, born March, 1884, after graduating from the common and high school, completed a course in the Cincinnati High school, specializing in mechanics. He became a practical carpenter, worked in Kansas City, where he studied architecture and home building, and business relations with Des Jardins, the well-known Cincinnati architect, developed into a partnership. In 1809, he married Mary A. Burns, daughter of A. Y. and Marie (Lehne) Burns, of Ross, Ohio. The result of this marriage is two children, Robert F. and Leona M. After marriage, they lived a short time in Cumminsville, then moved to the home farm, the affairs of which continue under his management.

Henry Joseph Bieker. There can be no more desirable association in the business world than that which exists in the case of a partnership of father and son. The elder man's experience is backed up and strengthened by the greater energies and enthusiasm of the younger man, combining to form a happy whole which makes for success in any line. One of these affiliations exists at Hamilton, where Theodore and Henry Joseph Bieker, father and son, are engaged in the custom tailoring business, having an excellent patronage at their establishment at No. 16 S. Second street. Henry Joseph Bieker was born September 22, 1883, at Hamilton, Ohio, a son of Theodore and Margaret (Turnbeit) Bieker, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Butler county. Theodore Bieker was educated in his native land, where he learned his trade and where his home was made until he reached the age of twenty-four years. At that time, deciding there was a better future for him in America, he emigrated to this country and located at Hamilton, where he held various positions for some years. Eventually, after he had worked for a number of merchant tailors in the capacity of coat maker, in 1903, he embarked in business on his own account, establishing himself as a custom tailor in a store on Main street. The business flourished and father and son continued at the same location until the disastrous flood of 1913 caused them a loss of $6,000 and practically destroyed their establishment. As soon as possible, they secured a new location, opening their present tailoring establishment at No. 16 S. Second street, where they have since remained. Their reputation for making finely tailored and stylish garments has spread to other localities and they at present have a patronage of the most desirable kind. June 14, 1881, Theodore Bieker married Margaret Turnbeit, and not long thereafter built the present comfortable and attractive family home at No. 344 Wayne street. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bieker: a daughter who died in infancy; Frank, who died at the age of sixteen years; Lou, a machinist of Hamilton, who married Mary Beckman of this city and has two children: Margaret,

the wife of Frank Bradner, a machinist of Hamilton, with one child; Mary and Louise, who are unmarried and reside with their parents; William, aged twenty-six years, formerly associated in the tailoring business with his father, at outbreak of war enlisted in the 322nd Field Artillery, was stationed at Camp Sherman for seven months in training, and then was sent overseas, where he saw active service, is now at home, associated again in the business, and a member of the Elks and the Eagles; Paul, a machinist of Hamilton, who married Merle Emrick; and Henry Joseph, of this review. Henry J. Bieker received his education in the graded schools of Hamilton, and learned the trade of custom tailor under the able tuition of his father, supplementing this by taking a course in custom cutting in Chicago. In 1903, he became established in business with his father, and it is due to his energetic labors and skill in workmanship largely that the business has proved such a success. July 2, 1912, Mr. Bieker married Mary Ann, daughter of Peter Becker, formerly of Harrison township, Butler county, but now of Hamilton. To this union there have been born three children: Mary Ann, born in 1913; Robert Louis, born in 1916; and John R., born April 27, 1919. The pleasant family home is located at 342 Wayne street. The family holds membership in St. Peter's church, and Mr. Bieker has a number of business, social and civic connections.

George S. Bishop, (deceased), the scion of a prominent family among Ohio's educators, was born in Oxford, Ohio, August 21, 1845, a son of Robert H. Bishop, jr., of Miami university. George S. Bishop's paternal grandfather, Robert H. Bishop, sr., was a native of Scotland, born in 1777, and became a Presbyterian minister. Later he came to Kentucky, and being a man of profound learning was asked to take a professorship at Transylvania university. In 1824, he was appointed the first president of Miami university, Oxford, Ohio. From this high seat he taught many of Ohio's great men, and among his students was enrolled the illustrious Benjamin Harrison, who later became president of the United States. For many years the Reverend Bishop was a moulder of men, and his influence has been keenly felt in Ohio wherever his students were able to act upon the great example of their teacher. Robert H. Bishop, jr., George S. Bishop's father, after his graduation from Miami, taught in the university for thirty-seven years. From 1857 to 1887, he held the chair of the Latin professorate, and later became professor emeritus of Latin. For thirty-five years he was secretary of the board of trustees of Miami college. After his death, his daughter, Anna Bishop, became secretary of the board, and this position she held until 1908, when she was succeeded by George S. Bishop. Mr. George Bishop was the third of the Bishop male line to serve Miami university. In 1867 he graduated with second highest honors. Before graduation, and during his years of study at the university—it was in the year 1864—he enlisted in Company A, the 167th Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, and served during the duration of the Civil war. At the close of the war, after finishing his course at the university, he was principal of the

academy at Bloomingburg, later taught at Covington, and still later was principal of the academy at Sangamon, Ill. After serving in such capacities, he went to Kansas, and while there pursued the study of law, and was state representative from his district. He was also the president of a National bank in the State of Kansas. In 1908, he returned to Oxford, Ohio, and was appointed business director of the university. Soon after he was selected as secretary of the board of trustees, in which capacity he served until the time of his death, which occurred November 7, 1916. George S. Bishop was married October 27, 1881, at the family home, Glendale, Ohio, to Virginia Oliphant Patterson, a daughter of Rev. Dr. A. O. and Maria (Speer) Patterson. James Buchanan, president of the United States, was the first cousin of Maria Speer, his mother being a Speer. Other illustrious relatives of the Speer family included Benjamin Harrison, of Indiana. A brother of Mrs. George Bishop, Dr. John E. Patterson, was a surgeon in the army during the Civil war. James R. Patterson, L. L. D., another brother, was a trustee of Miami university and with Whitelaw Reid, later ambassador from the United States to Great Britatin, made possible the erection of the beautiful Alumni Library building, of the university group of edifices, by reason of their liberal donations. Anna Patterson, a sister of Mrs. George Bishop, married J. S. Earhard, who was a captain during the Civil war. Another sister, Alice C. Patterson, was synodical secretary of the Presbyterian Home Missionary society of Ohio, and compiled the reports of this society from 1882 to 1915. After marriage, George Bishop and his wife lived in Kansas, where he was prominent in business and in politics, as the sketch above shows. Later they moved to Glendale, and finally to Oxford. To them was born Maria Speer Bishop, who graduated at Glendale college, afterward studying at Oxford. George Bishop was at one time county surveyor of Jewell county, Kans., and was a deputy United States revenue collector, in Kansas, from 1880 to 1884. In his death Ohio and Oxford, as well as Miami university, have suffered a loss that will be keenly felt for years to come. His accomplishments and achievements will live forever in the annals of the university, and his name will be spoken tenderly by students in generations to come. Mr. Bishop's widow resides in Oxford.

J. F. Bishop. The career of J. F. Bishop, of College Corner, as a dealer in real estate, has extended over a period covering nearly a quarter of a century, during which time he has supplied the medium through which numerous important transactions have been successfully and satisfactorily conducted. During this long time he has steadfastly maintained a reputation as a man of high business principles and ideals, who, underlying his desire for personal advancement, has always had at heart the welfare of his community as to material advancement and progress. He is a native of Preble county, born one mile north of Fairhaven, August 1, 1858, and a son of John and Ellen (Laird) Bishop, the father born on the same farm as his son, and the mother a native of Ireland. Mrs. Bishop came to the United States with her parents as a child, the family settling near Mixersville, Franklin county, Ohio. After their mar-

riage Mr. and Mrs. Bishop settled on a farm in Israel township, Preble county, where they resided for some years, and where both died and are buried. They were the parents of nine children: James M., Alice, J. F., Mrs. Mary F. Wells, Mrs. Catherine Collins, William, Mrs. Caroline Bostick, Charles and Mrs. Fannie Heavenridge. J. F. Bishop is indebted to the public schools of Fairhaven for his education, and after leaving school was engaged for three years in farming for his father-in-law. He then went to Darke county, Ohio, where he continued agricultural operations for four years, then going to Greenville, where he was engaged in the implement business. He also worked as a traveling representative for a fertilizer company, but eventually located at College Corner, where for twenty-three years he has carried on a general real estate business, with constantly growing success. He has engineered some large and important transactions, enjoys an excellent reputation in business circles, and is generally accounted a good judge of realty values and a man entirely capable of handling any matter which comes within the scope of his line of effort. March 18, 1886, Mr. Bishop was united in matrimony with Sallie, daughter of Joseph M. Stout, of College Corner. Mrs. Bishop died August 7, 1897, leaving one son, Fred S., who was born in 1887. He was educated in the public schools of College Corner and at Purdue university, from which he was graduated as an electrical engineer, a profession which he followed for a number of years. At the present time he is purchasing agent for the Staar Piano company, of Richmond, Ind. He married Elsie Earhart of College Corner. J. F. Bishop has a number of business, civic and social connections, and is actively and constructively identified with the various activities which go to make up life in his community, where he has been a helpful factor in the support of worth-while movements.

Hon. C. M. Black. Some men attain to more than ordinary prominence through the recognition by their associates of their ability to discharge certain duties, and this is undoubtedly the case of Hon. C. M. Black, who during the past four years has served as mayor of College Corner, Ohio. Elected first in 1915, during his first administration he gave such forcible evidence of his executive capacity that his fellow-citizens again chose him for the office at the election of 1917, and his subsequent term has been one in which he has continued to work with excellent results toward the attainment of civic perfection. Mr. Black was born in Union township, Union county, Ind., July 24, 1862, a son of George and Mary (Stewart) Black, the former a native of Rockbridge county, Va., and the latter of Pennsylvania. George Black was twenty years of age when, with his brother, he came overland on horseback from the Old Dominion state to Union county, Ind., and settled on a farm in Union township. He was first married to a Miss Miller, by whom he had five children: Mary, whose husband, George Winand, fought as a soldier in the Civil war and was a prisoner in Andersonville for three months; Miller, who served three years as a soldier during the Civil war; Nan, Delazon and Rachael. His second wife was a Miss Cox, and after her death he married Mary

Stewart, and who had come from Pennsylvania with her parents, the family settling on a farm near Loveland, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Black passed their lives as farming people and were highly respected in their community, where they were faithful members of the Presbyterian church. They were laid to rest in the Kingery graveyard. They had three children: C. M.; B. M., of Butler county; and Miss Electa. After attending the country schools of Union county, Ind., C. M. Black began working as a farmhand, and continued as an agriculturist for nineteen years. He was married March 20, 1884, to Rena, daughter of Hugh and Sarah (Davis) Roll, the latter the daughter of Samuel Davis, at one time recorder of Butler county. Hugh Roll was a blacksmith of College Corner, and both he and his wife lie buried in the Oxford cemetery. They had four children: Van Landingham, Davis, Charles and Rena. By his first marriage, Mr. Black had nine children: Sarah, who is now Mrs. David Owens, of Richmond, Ind.; Mary, who is deceased; Morris, of Boston, Ind.; Dwight, of College Corner; Camilla, the wife of O. Overman, of Richmond, Ind.; Ivan, of College Corner; Esther, a trained nurse of Richmond, Ind.; Kesley, a student in the home community; and one child who died in infancy. Ivan Black, of this family, enlisted in the regular army and was trained at Fort Thomas, Ky., Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and Camp Greene, N. C., becoming an attache of the Medical Base Hospital Corps and serving until receiving his honorable discharge in February, 1919. He was born October 4, 1897, and was married January 3, 1919, to Frieda Lynch, who was born at Burlington, N. C., and who had served as a Red Cross nurse at Camp Sevier, S. C. Morris Black, one of the older sons, served for three years in the regular army and saw active service in the Philippine Islands during the time of the Philippine Insurrection. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Black married Carrie, daughter of Louis and Katie (Epley) Ault, who are still living at College Corner and are the parents of nine children; Carrie; Emma, the wife of Chas. Hayes, Fair Haven, Ohio; Louise, of Hamilton, Ohio; Edward of Indianapolis, Ind.; Clara, wife of Howard Bryant, Oxford, Ohio; Marie, wife of Soren Pierce, of Hamburg, N. Y.; Mable, wife of Orea Brown, College Corner, Ohio; Margarite and Charles, deceased. For some years C. M. Black continued to be engaged in farming, but about 1904 took up his residence at College Corner where, he applied himself to the trade of carpenter, a vocation which he had learned in his youth. He was a skilled, efficient and conscientious workman and was able to build up an excellent business, at the same time thoroughly establishing himself in public favor and confidence. Thus, by the time he became a candidate, in 1915, he was well known to the people as a man of sound and practical ideas, absolute integrity and industry, and received a large majority at the polls. He vindicated the people's confidence by giving them an excellent administration and was accordingly re-elected in 1917. His administrations have been excellent ones, in which he has managed civic affairs of government in a businesslike, expeditious and thoroughly efficient manner. He was active in

the promotion of all war activities and had charge of the Red Cross membership at College Corner. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church, to which the members of his family also belong.

Dwight E. Black, the well-known blacksmith of College Corner, Ohio, was born in College Corner, June 15, 1889, the son of C. M. and Rena (Roll) Black. His education he received from the fine graded school and high school of Union county, Ind. After finishing at the latter institution, he learned the blacksmith's trade, and five years ago, started into business for himself. In October, 1912, he married Ruth Ridenour, daughter of David and Pauline (Flock) Ridenour. His wife's father, David Ridenour, was born in Preble county, Ohio, and his wife in Berlin, Germany. She came to this country with her parents some years before her marriage, and with them settled in Union county, Ind. To David and Pauline Ridenour were born twelve children. Those living are: Charles, of Richmond; George, now of Liberty, Ind.; William, also living in Liberty; Sylvanus, who married Miss Rogers; August, of Mixersville; Curtis, of College Corner; Alonzo, of Liberty, Ind; Ruth, the wife of the subject of this sketch; and Lester. The marriage of Dwight Black and Ruth Ridenour has been blessed with two children: Rena Pauline and Curtis Rogers Black. The family belong to the local Presbyterian church. Mr. Black is active in K. P. lodge circles, as well as in Masonic circles. During the war he entered whole-heartedly into patriotic work, his endeavor being crowned with great success.

Edward C. Blacker. Practical industry wisely and vigorously applied seldom fails of winning success, and the life of Edward C. Blacker is but another proof of this statement. With only ordinary advantages in his youth, he started out to make his own way in the world, and his diligence and judicious management have brought to him a handsome reward for his labors. He is now one of the well-to-do retired agriculturists of Butler county, spending the evening of life at Seven Mile after many years spent in farming, and in his life are many principles which might well be taken as examples by those of the rising generations. Mr. Blacker was born on a farm in Riley township, Butler county, Ohio, October 21, 1849, a son of James H. and Sarah (Tinney) Blacker. His paternal grandfather, Edward Blacker, was a native of Ireland, who, as an early immigrant to Butler county, secured wild land from the Government in Riley township, and there hewed out a home from the wilderness and developed a good farm. He married a Miss Port and both passed the rest of their lives in Riley township, being the parents of five children: James H., Clara, Allen, Louisa and William. James H. Blacker was born in Riley township, and while the schools of his day in Butler county were somewhat primitive, he was an omnivorous reader, and not only obtained an excellent education but also became a great Bible student. After his marriage he located on the old home place, where he spent the rest of his life with the exception of sixteen years passed in Union county, Ind. His death occurred when he was eighty-four years of age, and his wife passed away when seventy, both being faithful members of the Methodist Episco-

MR. AND MRS. J. G. BLAINE AND BABY RICHARD ALLEN

pal church. Mr. Blacker was a Democrat. His children were: William, a retired farmer of Richmond, Ind.; Edward C.; John, a farmer of Union county, Ind.; James, a farmer of Franklin county, Ind., who died in 1916; and Nancy and Ella, deceased. Edward C. Blacker attended the public schools of Peoria, Ind., and seems to have inherited some of his father's desire for attaining an advanced education, for as a student his mind was bright and retentive and he took a leading place in his classes. During his earlier years he spent many winter terms in teaching, and thus passed ten years in Riley and Morgan townships, Butler county, and several terms in Indiana. In the meantime, in the summer months, he applied himself to farming, and remained on the home place until the time of his marriage, in October, 1873, to Charlotte, a daughter of William and Margaret J. Salmon, the former of German lineage and the latter of Welsh and Irish stock, Mr. Salmon being for many years a farmer of Riley township. Following his marriage, Mr. Blacker went to Franklin county, Ind., where he resided for seven years, following which he went to Union county, in the same state, and lived sixteen years. Returning then to Riley township, Butler county, Ohio, he bought the old Salmon homestead of 160 acres, on which he made his home for twenty-three years, retiring in the spring of 1916, at which time he disposed of his interests in the land and moved to his present home at Seven Mile. During the active years of his life, Mr. Blacker was looked upon as a skilled and thoroughly learned agriculturist, and his operations in the various departments of farming met with marked success, his sound judgment in business matters and his well-directed efforts bringing to him a handsome competence. He may truly be said to be a self-made man, for success comes to the busy toilers of the world, of whom he is one, and in the acquirement of his property his methods were ever honorable and commendable, winning him the respect and confidence of all with whom he was brought into contact. During the time that he was engaged in teaching school he kept a private register of his scholars for many years, and can readily find where most of his old pupils now live, although his memory is so remarkable that he seldom has to use this volume for reference. He is a Democrat by political preference, but has not cared for the honors or contests of political or public life. He has been content to be a good citizen and a supporter of what he has considered good measures and movements. His religious belief is that of the Presbyterian church, in the faith of which Mrs. Blacker died March 23, 1918, interment being made at Riley.

James G. Blaine, the subject of this sketch, is a descendant from the same ancestral line as that to which the distinguished American statesman bearing the same name belonged, and is endowed with the sturdy, virile characteristics of his illustrious forefathers. He is the son of James P. and Nancy A. (Statts) Blaine, and was born near Parkersburg, W. Va., August 2, 1883. His parents died in that place—the father on August 28, 1898; the mother, July 28, 1913. There were seven children in the family, all of whom are living: George, at Youngstown, Ohio; Thomas and Frank, at Rochester,

Pa.; Laura, Mrs. Victor Polsley, at Wellsville, Ohio; Sara, Mrs. E. W. Proffitt, in Bridgeport, Ohio; Bergen E., in Huntington, W. Va.; and James G., our subject, who for the past twenty-three years has worked in various mills as a roller and came from Wheeling, W. Va., to Middletown, September 9, 1911, to accept a similar position with the American Rolling Mill company. On December 24, 1912, he married Miss Ella Sims, daughter of the late Capt. and Mrs. Mary Sims, of Middletown. They have one child, a handsome and robust son, Richard Allen Blaine, the joy of the household, born December 5, 1918. Mrs. Blaine's father, Capt. Sims, and Mr. Blaine's grandfathers Blaine and Statts served in the Civil war with bravery and honor, and where grandfather Capt. Franklin Blaine lost one leg. Mr. and Mrs. Blaine are held in high esteem by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. They have a most elaborate home in Arlington square in which they find pleasure, contentment and happiness. In politics, Mr. Blaine is a Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and also of the K. of P. and Elks orders.

John L. Blair, who is widely and favorably known in commercial circles of Middletown as the proprietor of a thriving grocery on South Clinton street, and who has also performed capably and conscientiously the duties pertaining to several public offices, belongs to a family which has been connected with the business history of this community for sixty-eight years. He was born at Middletown, June 22, 1864, a son of John and Barbara (McLean) Blair, and a grandson of John and Janet (Barr) Blair, who met and were married at Campbelltown, near Glasgow, Scotland. The Blair family is traced back to the old Romans in Britain. In the second century, history relates, the Romans in Perthshire, Scotland, according to their reckoning, gained a great victory over the Caledonians, the scene of the decisive battle being known as Blair's Hill, which would indicate that Blair was a familiar name even at that early date. Among ancient castles of Scottish chiefs was Blair Castle, the stronghold of the Montrose clan in 1644, which was stormed by Cromwell about ten years later. In 1690 it was practically a ruin, but 200 years later was restored, and at present is the seat of the Duke of Athole. The home of the Drummonds of Perthshire is called Blair-Drummond house. In the new world, a famous old Blair home is that of the late Judge John Blair of Williamsburg, Va., which is still one of the early colonial landmarks. American branches of the Blair family trace back to Scotland through John Blair, of Virginia, an early colonist, and one Alexander Blair was a forefather also in the Old Dominion. One of the New England forefathers was David Blair, of Massachusetts, whose son, Robert, married Hannah Thompson. James Blair of Virginia was the founder of William and Mary college and its first president, and too was a contemporary of three governors of Virginia, Spottiswood, Gooch and Dinwiddie. Like them, he was of Scotch birth. The statesmen of the Blair family have included Senator Henry Blair of the New England family and Judge Montgomery Blair, of Kentucky. Senator Francis Preston Blair of Kentucky, who was born in Virginia after the close of

the Revolutionary war, was a son of James Blair, attorney general of Kentucky. Montgomery Blair and Francis Blair, sr., were brothers. The family of President James K. Polk was allied with the Blairs. "Like Angels' visits, short and far between," is a line from one of the poems of Robert Blair, who was born in Edinburg, Scotland, and one of whose sons became lord president of the Court of Sessions. Hugh Blair, another relative, was born in Edinburg. His volume of sermons so pleased King George III that he granted him a pension, and the success of his lectures on literature led to the foundation of a chair of belles lettres at Edinburgh university. The Blair coat-of-arms is blazoned argent on a saltier sable nine, nine mascles voided sable. Crest: A stay lodged proper. Motto: "Amo probos (I love the virtuous)." This is the coat-of-arms of the Blairs of Scottish birth. There is a similar blazon of arms for the Blairs born in Ireland, only the number of mascles is five and there are crescents, mullets and garbs, symbolizing sincerity, loyalty and constancy. The parents of John L. Blair were young people when they came to the United States from their native land of Scotland, and were married at Middletown in 1854. They came to Middletown, where John Blair became one of this city's first paper manufacturers, being superintendent of the old Barnitz Paper company. Later he embarked in the grocery business, with which he was connected until the time of his retirement in 1900. His death occurred June 14, 1906, and that of his wife in 1908. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church for a period of forty years, and he and his wife were the parents of four children: John L.; Anna, the wife of W. H. Ely, of Middletown; Miss Isabel Edna, of this city; and Jennie, the wife of J. F. Winton, of Philadelphia. John L. Blair was educated in the public schools of Middletown, and when he was still a youth began to be associated with his father in the conduct of the grocery business. At the time of his father's retirement, in 1900, he assumed the management, and at the present time is sole owner of the business, which is located at 316 Clinton street and enjoys an excellent patronage. Recognized as one of Middletown's premier business men, progressive and enterprising, Mr. Blair has also served his community well and energetically in offices of public importance, having been president of the school board for two years, a member of the city council one year and a member of the board of public service for six years and eight months, during two years of which time he was president of that body. As a fraternalist he belongs to the Masons and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. January 15, 1891, Mr. Blair married Bertha Rebecca Thompson, who came from Belfast, Ireland, and whose father died November 2, 1906, her mother passing away in Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Blair are the parents of six children: Hugh Thompson, Charles, Agnes Lucile, John Milton, Vincent Paul and Eugene.

John Richard Blankenship, a heater in the employ of the American Rolling mill and a son of John Richard and Martha (Gannon) Blankenship, was born September 17, 1886, at Ashland, Ky. On completion of his education in the public schools of that place, he secured employment in a furniture factory, and later entered a steel

plant, where he learned his trade. Mr. Blankenship's parents are old settlers of Ashland, and still have their home there. In addition to the subject of this sketch, there were fourteen children in the family: Belle, Mrs. Alfred Dinsmore, of Ashland; Mollie, Mrs. Henry White; William and Mattie, Mrs. Elmer Brown; all of Ironton, Ohio; James Cummings and Joe, in Ashland; Charles, in Los Angeles, Calif.; Colonel and Lida, Mrs. Tom Ratliff, in Ashland; Gerald, in the United States Navy; Otis, in Ashland; Leona, in West Virginia; Jess, in Ashland; and one who died in infancy. The family is noted for its patriotism. The paternal grandfather served in the Mexican war and lost a leg in battle in the Civil war; William and Joe were in the Spanish-American war; James also was in the Spanish-American war and has been for the past twenty-eight years with the United States Army; Colonel is with the Army of Occupation in Germany; and Gerald is in the United States Navy. In 1911, Mr. Blankenship went to Middletown and took a position with the American Rolling Mill company as heater, and through the years of his service has been a faithful worker. His marriage to Eva Rosena Schmitt, daughter of Herman and Catherine (Conrad) Schmitt, took place in Middletown, May 7, 1914. Mrs. Blankenship was born in Middletown, September 16, 1891. Her two brothers, Herman and Arthur, and the parents also live there. Four children: Paul, Catharine, Edna May and Mary Margaret, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Blankenship. A few years ago a splendid new home was built on Grand avenue, in which the members of the family take much pleasure and delight. Mr. Blankenship is an industrious and thrifty man, and in political matters he is liberal.

John Block, who is one of the best known residents of Union township, Butler county, lives retired on his well improved farm which he cultivated with care and profit for many years. Mr. Block was born in 1832, in Holstein, Germany, attended school in boyhood and afterward assisted his father in tilling their small tract of land. Desiring better agricultural opportunity than was possible in Holstein at that time for young men without capital, when twenty years of age he came to the United States and as many of his countrymen had settled in Ohio, he naturally sought a home here also. He found immediate employment as a farmhand in Butler county, near Hughes station, and continued working on farms in the county until 1884 when he bought his present farm of 144 acres and has lived here ever since. Through industry he prospered and through economy he put aside for the time when he should retire, hence he is in very comfortable circumstances. He married Stephina Braun and they have the following children: Carrie Elizabeth, Henry, Masie M., John, Charles, Anna, George and Frank. Mr. Block reared his large family in comfort and gave them educational advantages. At one time he served in the office of road supervisor. He belongs to St. John's Lutheran church at Hamilton.

Harry C. Blum. Energetic and successful in business life and prominent and public-spirited in civic affairs, for some years Harry C. Blum has been known as one of Hamilton's substantial citizens, a reliable and trustworthy man who has combined the qualities of

marked business talents and constructive citizenship into a factor that has contributed to his community's well-being. He is a native son of Hamilton, his parents being Ernest F. and Salina (Garver) Blum. Ernest F. Blum was born in Germany and was a child when brought to the United States and settled in Texas. He was still a youth when he came to Cincinnati and enlisted in the Union army for service during the Civil war, joining the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Bob McCook, with which organization he took part in several hard-fought battles. When his first term of service expired, he re-enlisted, in the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he fought bravely until the close of the struggle. Returning to civil life, he became a member of the furniture firm of Sortman & Blum, which in the early days manufactured coffins and furniture by hand, and continued as a furniture manufacturer for many years, or until his retirement, which preceded his death by a short time. His first wife, Salina Garver, who died when her only son and child, Harry C., was an infant, was born at Hamilton, and was a member of the old and honored Garver family, which settled in America in Colonial times, contributed of its members to the ranks of the army during the Revolutionary war and the War of 1812, subsequently located in Pennsylvania, and from that state came as pioneers to Ohio. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Blum married Miss Emilie Beer, of Hamilton, of German ancestry, and they had four children: Mathilda, Anna, Jennie and Emma. Harry C. Blum was educated in the public schools of Hamilton, following which he took a course in a business college here, and then entered the factory of his father's business. Later he was taken into the office, as bookkeeper, and then filled a like position with the Gordon Steam Pump company, with which he remained for eight years. In 1895 he became selling agent for the Cincinnati Packing and Abattoir company, and after many years spent on the road was appointed distributing agent for this concern for Hamilton and the vicinity. He has a wide acquaintance in his line of business, as well as in commercial and industrial circles generally, and has the complete confidence and respect of those with whom he has come in contact. Mr. Blum is also an accomplished musician, a talent inherited from his father, and for several years was orchestra leader at the Hamilton opera house. He has been prominent and active in local politics, as a Republican, was for some time city treasurer, a position to which he was appointed, and is now a member of the county board of elections. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the United Commercial Travelers, and with his family he belongs to the Methodist church. In 1893 Mr. Blum married Rose, daughter of Booth F. Stead, a veteran of the Civil war. In 1898 Mrs. Blum died, and in 1905 Mr. Blum married May Oakes, of Crawford county, Pa., daughter of William Oakes, of Conneautville, Pa., who kept a tavern and was of old Revolutionary stock. Mr. Oakes' wife was born in Pennsylvania, a member of the DePue family, also of Revolutionary descent, and died at Conneaut, Ohio.

John D. Bobenmeyer. He is a son of John and Saloma (Dubbs)

Bobenmeyer, both natives of Pennsylvania, where the former was born in Berks county and the latter in Lehigh county, the respective families having been early founded in the Old Keystone state. John Bobenmeyer was a son of John Frederick Bobenmeyer, who was of Holland Dutch descent, the original ancestors in America having here settled in the colonial days. John Frederick Bobenmeyer was but six months old when Indians attacked the home at night and massacred all members of the family except John F. and his devoted mother, who fled with him into the forest depths and there remained in concealment until the Indians departed. The infant child thus saved from death by his mother, grew to manhood in the old Keystone state, whence he came to Ohio and numbered himself among the early settlers of Butler county. Here he first established his home and found employment in a distillery where he remained a number of years. He then removed to Darke county. John Bobenmeyer was a child at the time when the family home was established in Butler county, where he was reared under the conditions and influences that marked the pioneer period and here he devoted his entire active career to agriculture, his old homestead farm having been situated on the present Deerfield turnpike, where he lived and labored to goodly ends and where he and his wife passed the closing years of their lives, secure in the high regard of all who knew him. They became the parents of ten children, all of whom attained to maturity: Frances, Susan, Sarah, Henry, John D., Maggie, Mary, Elizabeth, Clara, and Charles. Susan became the wife of Mitchell Morris; Sarah's first husband was L. D. Norris, and after his death she became the wife of William Graham; Clara became the wife of Adrian Fox; Maggie married Andrew Schuler; Mary became the wife of Charles Riffel; and Elizabeth wedded Charles Smith. John D. Bobenmeyer passed the period of his childhood and youth upon the old family homestead, in Fairfield township, where his early educational advantages were those offered in the common schools of the period. He continued upon his father's farm until the time of his marriage, when he established a home of his own on the little farm which is his present place of residence and which comprises ninety-four and one-half acres, and the buildings and other permanent improvements that mark this property were installed by Mr. Bobenmeyer. He has been one of the world's workers and has won substantial prosperity through his own well ordered efforts. He has had no vestige of ambition for the activities of the political arena, but is found arrayed as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and both he and his wife are earnest members of the Presbyterian church. The Centennial year, 1876, recorded the marriage of Mr. Bobenmeyer to Miss Emma Vinneage, who is a native of Fairfield township, as was also her father, the late Moore Vinneage, who had the distinction of being the first white child born in this township, his entire active career having been marked by close association with agricultural industry in his native county, his wife, whose maiden name was Nancy H. Kirk, having been born in Pennsylvania. Of their ten children eight attained to maturity, namely: Rollin, John, William, Mary,

Laura, Lawrence, Emma and Nancy. Mr. and Mrs. Bobenmeyer have three children: John Harlan, Frank Moore and Emma Gertrude. John H. Bobenmeyer wedded Miss Elizabeth Shepard and they have three children: Joseph Glenn, Lillian and Marion. Frank M. Bobenmeyer remains with his venerable parents and has active charge of the old homestead farm; he is a bachelor. Emma Gertrude is the wife of James Clawson, and they have no children.

Peter P. Boli. On the roster of Hamilton's able members of the profession of law is found the name of Peter P. Boli, who has gained distinctive preferment in his chosen calling. In the learned professions and particularly in that which pertains to the practice of law, advancement depends entirely upon merit, and the intellectual vigor, analytical power and argumentative ability of Mr. Boli have gained him a leading place among the attorneys of Butler county. Mr. Boli belongs to that class of men who gain success in the community of their nativity, and is thoroughly, by birth, training and predilection a product of Ohio, and of the Miami valley. He was born at Hamilton, March 31, 1885, a son of Louis A. and Caroline (Buckel) Boli, well known and highly-esteemed people of Hamilton, and is a member of one of the city's honored old families. After attending the graded and high schools of Hamilton, Mr. Boli entered upon his professional studies as a student at the Ohio State university, from the law department of which institution he was duly graduated with the class of 1908, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law. He at once located at Hamilton, where his probationary period, through which practically every young lawyer must go, was passed in the office of and in association with W. C. Shepard. Subsequently he left Mr. Shepard, and since that time has been engaged in practice alone. Possessing the advantages of a collegiate education, having boundless energy and great ambition, with a studious nature and a keenly analytical mind, it is not strange that Mr. Boli soon won success at the bar. He demonstrated his ability in several well conducted litigated interests and from that time has enjoyed a liberal clientage. He prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, and never loses sight of an available point that will enhance the interests of his clients. His arguments are forceful, clear and convincing, and his deductions follow in logical sequence. In his political associations, Mr. Boli is a Republican, but prefers the triumph of principle to the domination of party, and personally has not been an aspirant for public honors, his good citizenship being confined to a support of worthy measures designed for the betterment of the community and its people. Fraternally, he is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. May 7, 1914, Mr. Boli married Sue, daughter of Isaac Whelan, of Hamilton, and they have one daughter: Betty C.

Llewellyn Bonham. In the career of Llewellyn Bonham, of Oxford, two industries, those of agriculture and manufacturing, have played an important part. For a number of years he has been classed with the substantial and successful farmers of Butler county, and as secretary of the Bonham Recorder company has attained a

high position in the business world of his community. Mr. Bonham was born at St. Louis, Mo., a son of L. N. and Ellen M. (Gere) Bonham, the former a native of Hamilton county, Ohio, and the latter of Massachusetts. In his youth L. N. Bonham followed the vocation of teacher, and for many years was principal of a seminary at St. Louis, but in 1872 changed his residence to Oxford, Ohio, and for fourteen years was secretary of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture. He was a man of superior educational attainments and a graduate of Miami university, of which in his later life he was a member of the board of trustees. After his marriage to Ellen M. Gere he resided for a time at Dayton, but later moved to St. Louis, where their two children, Nellie, deceased, and Llewellyn Bonham were born. The parents are both deceased. Llewellyn Bonham was educated in private schools and at Michigan Agricultural college, Lansing, Mich., after graduation from which, he resided at Chicago, Ill., for two years, being identified with the big packing firm of Swift & company. In 1898 he was sent to New York by that company as manager of one of its departments, but subsequently resigned to take up his profession of civil engineering in connection with railroad construction work, in addition to which he did much experimental work in mechanics. While engaged in the latter pursuit, he conceived the idea of a traffic recorder, which he patented in 1914, this device being an intricate register for recording passenger traffic. By a simple mechanism it records the number of passengers carried between any two stations, the total passenger mileage of each trip, the number of cash and ticket passengers, the number of passengers carried from one point to another and a summary total of all financial and mileage statistics of each trip is recorded in total. By this simple mechanism may be determined by railroads, interurbans, etc., the business done each day, month or year between points, the comparative traffic of one point and another, and condenses in a very accurate and concise manner all the information needed in the auditing of passenger traffic. At the end of each trip the conductor is enabled by releasing the printed report to attach his signature, and this report is always accurate and complete, showing the stations at which passengers boarded trains, their respective points of destination and all other facts. This system has been adopted by many of the leading interurban roads of the country. Active manufacture of this device was commenced in November, 1914, at Hamilton, but when the United States entered the war, active production was curtailed because the factory was engaged in war work in the manufacture of Liberty motor parts. The corporation officers of the Bonham Recorder company are: E. E. Dwight, president; G. Y. Bast, vice-president; and Llewellyn Bonham, secretary. In addition to this large and important business, Mr. Bonham is largely interested in farming, and at the present time is the owner of much valuable property, including the farm purchased in 1840 in Butler county by his maternal grandfather, Isaac Gere. He was married to Frances S., daughter of R. W. McFarland, of Oxford, who for a number of years was president of Miami university.

Frank J. Bov. The value of a useful trade and of centering one's activities in a given occupation is exemplified in the career of Frank J. Bov, proprietor of the Miami Pattern works, at Hamilton, Ohio. Concentration and industry have played an important part in Mr. Bov's rise from humble circumstances to prosperity, and his career is one which should prove encouraging to other youths placed in the same position as that which he occupied when he started to make his own way in life. Mr. Bov was born at Hamilton, February 17, 1868, a son of Jacob Bov. His father, a native of Ireland, left that country in young manhood and emigrated to America, where he arrived without capital and with nothing to assist him save his willingness to work, and his knowledge of the shoemaker's trade. He located at Hamilton in 1848 and for some years worked at his trade as a journeyman, but his industry and frugal habits enabled him to accumulate sufficient capital to invest in a business of his own, and for some years he was the proprietor of a shop and shoe store at Rossville, where his death occurred in 1868. His widow, who bore the maiden name of Magdalene Snyder and was a native of Germany, still survives him at the age of eighty-two years, and is a communicant of St. Stephen's Roman Catholic church. There were five children in the family, three of whom survive, as follows: John, who is a carriage painter of Cincinnati, O.; Mary, the widow of Mike Judge, of Hamilton; and Frank J. Frank J. Bov was still a child when his father died, and much of his boyhood was spent in hard work, but he nevertheless managed to secure a good common school education, attending the classes in Hamilton until he was twenty years of age. In the meantime he had remained with his mother, and had worked at such honorable employment as presented itself, but finally came to the conclusion that a useful trade was a valuable asset and accordingly set about to learn pattern making. He proved a skilled workman in this direction and had no trouble in finding remunerative employment, being connected with a New York firm for four years, and working also at Laporte, Ind., Dayton, O., and other large cities. In 1901 he returned to Hamilton, where he bought the business of Jacob School & Son, and in 1903 moved to his present location at No. 110 Monument avenue, where he now has a modern plant, finely equipped throughout. The extent of his business, which includes the work of all the large Hamilton manufacturers and a number from Cincinnati and other nearby cities, necessitates the employment of from ten to fifteen skilled mechanics. Mr. Bov has demonstrated what a man can accomplish by pursuing practical and straightforward methods and by exercising always in his associations with his fellow men the qualities of integrity, consideration and kindness. The subterfuge of misrepresentation is strictly tabooed from his plant, and in consequence he is thoroughly relied upon and trusted by business men here. That honesty and fair dealing combine to form the best policy is demonstrated anew in the career of Mr. Bov, for he receives high credit in Bradstreet, and exerts a strong influence upon many phases of municipal growth. Fraternally, Mr. Bov is affiliated with Father Butler Council, No. 968, K. C., and Hamilton Lodge, No. 93, B. &

P. O. E. With his family he belongs to St. Peter's Catholic church. In 1906 Mr. Bov was married to Miss Clara Becker, of Hamilton, and four children have been born to this union: Raphael and Thomas, twins; Frances and Anna. All at home. Mrs. Becker's parents are deceased; her father, Frank J. Becker, was a moulder by trade.

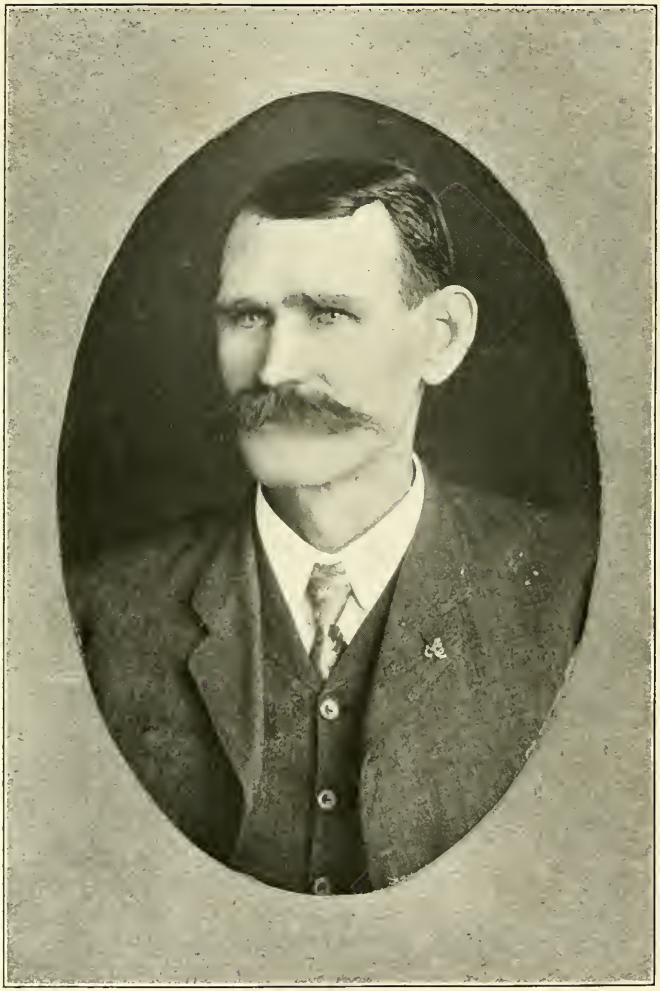
John C. Boyle. In the fertile agricultural regions of the Miami valley it is not unusual to find that several generations of a family have resided on the same farm, son succeeding father in the ownership of the property. This is the case in the property now owned and operated by John C. Boyle, a capable and highly respected agriculturist of Hanover township, whose farm has been in the family name for one hundred years and was formerly operated by his father and maternal grandfather, eighty acres of which was deeded to his maternal grandfather, Enos James, by John Rickey, December 12, 1817, for the sum of $560, as was also eighty acres deeded by John Sacket to Enos James, March 9, 1830, for $900. Mr. Boyle was born on this farm October 5, 1868, a son of John Boyle. The latter was born at Cookston, Ireland, November 14, 1822, and as a young man emigrated to the United States, without friends or finances, but with a strong determination to find his fortune in the land of his adoption. Locating at Cincinnati, for a time he was employed in that city making mill stones, but subsequently moved to near Darrtown, where for a time he was employed on the John Moore farm at a wage of $10 per month. He was married February 22, 1849, to Martha J. James, born July 6, 1826, a daughter of Enos and Martha (Chandler) James, natives of Bucks county, Pa., and early settlers of section 22, Hanover township. In that section Mr. James had secured land from the United States government at an early day, erected a log house thereon, cleared and cultivated his land, and made a home thereon, in which he resided until his death, January 4, 1899. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, as was also Mrs. James. They had five children: James, who went to Carroll county, Ind.; Jason, who went to the same county; Abel, who lived at Bath, Ind.; Elias, who went to Carroll county; and Martha J., who became Mrs. Boyle. After his marriage, John Boyle settled on the James homestead, where he continued to be engaged in farming until his death, January 4, 1899, his wife surviving him until April 4, 1902. They were the parents of nine children: Enos James, born December 10, 1850, a farmer in Clinton county, Ind., who died January 22, 1918; William and Jason, twins, born March 25, 1853, the former of whom died July 30, 1853, and the latter also deceased; Henderson, born January 24, 1857, a resident of Columbus, Ind.; Elias, born April 18, 1857, a farmer in Hanover township, Butler county; Andrew J., born April 9, 1859, died November 10, 1865; George W., born June 13, 1861; Martha J., born September 3, 1865, married Jacob Nehl, of Butler county; and John C. John C. Boyle attended the public schools of his native community and grew up on the home farm. He was married June 22, 1892, to Dora, daughter of John Jacob and Dorothea (Ritteberger) Miller, who were born in

Germany and as young people came to the United States and settled at Cincinnati, where Mr. Miller followed his trade of cooper until his removal to Hamilton. There his death occurred in November, 1918, when he had reached the remarkable age of ninety-one years, while his widow still survives him and resides at Hamilton. Mr. Miller fought as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war. There were eight children in the Miller family, namely: Jacob, Lizzie, Dora, Henry C., George, Susie, Anna and Herman, all residents of Hamilton except Mrs. Dora Boyle, and Susie, the latter deceased. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Boyle: Clement M., born February 28, 1894, who married Hazel Ermston, and farms a part of the home place; John Lee, born March 12, 1896, who married Alma M. Green, and is a salesman of Franklin, Ind., with two children,—Bertha M. and John Lee, jr.; Fred H., born April 7, 1898, residing at home; Martha D., born August 3, 1900, a graduate of the Hanover high school, class of 1918; Bertha, born July 24, 1903, at home; and Charles G., born September 26, 1907, also at home. Mr. Boyle has always lived on the old home place, where he has one of the fine country homes of Butler county. In addition to carrying on a general farming business, he raises pure-bred Polled Hereford cattle, Poland China hogs, draft horses and white rock chickens, and his modern methods and marked industry are assisting him to make a success of all his undertakings. As a citizen he is ranked high among the residents of his community, where he has discharged every duty faithfully, and for several years has served efficiently as a member of the school board. He votes the Democratic ticket, and he and the members of his family belong to the Hamilton United Presbyterian church.

Frank Bradley. The late Frank Bradley, who had earned widespread respect and which he held to the day of his death, had all the essential qualities for a useful and successful career; was one of the well-to-do agriculturists of Oxford township, Butler county. Mr. Bradley was born at Binghamton, N. Y., a son of John and Fidelia (Dean) Bradley. The only child of his parents, he accompanied them as a child to Cincinnati and after a few years to Bloomington, Ill., but subsequently returned to Cincinnati for his education, and then settled at Oxford. Here he was married, August 25, 1875, to Sarah J., daughter of John and Sarah Jane (Pickard) Preston, natives of Yorkshire, England, who were married in that country and on their arrival in the United States settled at Cincinnati. In 1867, they located in Butler county, Ohio, on the farm on which Mrs. Bradley now makes her home, and here the father died in 1872 and the mother in 1894, both being laid to rest in Oxford cemetery. They were the parents of six children: Sarah Jane, who became Mrs. Bradley; John T.; Charles W., of Oxford; Mary A., the wife of Joseph Bentley, of Connersville; Anna E., the wife of Al McDonald, of Indianapolis, Ind.; and George P., who resides with Mrs. Bradley. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley lived for a time east of Oxford and then moved to Union county, Ind., but after five years settled on the old Preston

homestead, where Frank Bradley continued to carry on agricultural operations until his death in 1914, and he was laid to rest in Oxford cemetery. He was a good citizen and greatly interested in the welfare of his community, never cared for public preferment, but preferred to devote himself to his home and his farm, where he found his chief interest and enjoyment. His widow resides on the old home place and is highly esteemed by her numerous friends. With her lives her brother, George Preston, a substantial, practical and capable farmer, who, with his sister, is a part owner of the farm, which he is operating with much success. He is unmarried, and a member of Oxford Lodge, No. 67, of the Masonic fraternity, and Hamilton chapter. During the recent war, both he and Mrs. Bradley were generous contributors to all war activities. To Mr. and Mrs. Bradley there were born the following children: Charles, who married Anna Kapp and has three children,—Clarence, Donald and Roy; Clara, deceased, who was the wife of William Garden; Mary, who married M. Kellar and has three children,—Wilbur, Stanley and Harold; Frank, deceased; Sarah, who married Lee Ferris and has three children,—Floyd, Robert and Maynard; William, who married Grace Smith, lives with his mother and assists his uncle in his farming activities; and Luther, who married Edith Woodruff and has one child,—Edna.

Maria Louisa Brady, who is counted as one of the estimable women of Riley township, Butler county, Ohio, is highly regarded, not only for her excellent traits of womanhood, but also for the kindly interests she manifests in the well-being of her neighbors, has been a resident of that section since 1867, is a woman of most pleasing personality and endowed with all the attributes of the ideal mother and neighbor. She is the widow of William Brady, who in his time was one of the most active agriculturists in Butler county and was known as a man of unimpeachable business integrity. He died February 22, 1916. Mrs. Brady was born in Franklin county, Ind., Bath township, November 20, 1843, the daughter of Oliver P. and Maria (Flint) Thurston, being one of eleven children. Her father was born in Northumberland county, Pa., and came to Franklin county with his parents in 1819. They settled on a farm in Bath township, Franklin county, where the parents died, the father being killed by a falling tree. The mother was born in Baltimore, Md., and was the daughter of William and Temperance Flint. Her father died in Norfolk, Va., and she came to Butler county from Baltimore with her mother. The family, which consisted of mother and six children, settled in Bath township. The brother of Mrs. Brady's mother was drafted in the War of 1812 and died in Detroit, Mich. The parents of Maria Louisa Brady were married in 1825 in Bath township and after their marriage settled and resided there until Oliver P. Thurston died in 1865. In June, 1870, the widow and daughter moved to the present homestead, where Mrs. Brady now lives. The eleven children were Sarah, John R., Elizabeth, Samuel, William, Dorcas, Joseph, Benjamin, Maria Louisa, of this sketch, George R. and Oliver P. Of these eight grew to maturity. Maria Louisa Brady was educated



LUKE BRANNON

at Mixersville, Ind., and was united in marriage in 1862 to William Brady, who was the son of Samuel and Susan (Davis) Brady. The father was a native of Union county, Ind., and the mother was born in Butler county, Ohio. Samuel Brady came to Riley township in 1843 with his parents and settled on the farm on which Mary Louisa Brady now lives. There were three other children, Lucretia, Verlinda and one who died in infancy. The father's second marriage was to Martha Barnum and his third marriage to Amanda Coverley. It was on August 3, 1867, that Mary Louisa Thurston and William Brady were united in marriage and they removed to the present homestead the same year. The tract consists of about 154 acres. To them were born these children: Joseph F., Oliver S., and Leola M. Joseph F. married Belle Smith of Franklin county. She died in 1887. They had one child, deceased. Joseph married a second time to Sarah Teetor and two children resulted from this union, Melba W., and Elsie B. Joseph F. died in 1911. Melba served in France during the recent war, having enlisted as a sergeant in the Quartermaster's department in 1917. Elsie became the wife of Earl Carson, who served in the army at Camp McHenry, Baltimore. Oliver S. married Clara Zepp and the couple reside in Colorado. They have two children, Louisa Edith and Ellis E. Louisa is the wife of Earl Kimber of Yuma county, Col., and they are the parents of one child, Verna. Ellis E. and wife reside in Hastings, Neb., and have one child. Leola married Melby C. Abbot and they reside in Indianapolis and have four children—Leta, Lois, Loren and Laura. Leta is the wife of Dr. R. Riffle of Indianapolis and they have one child. Lois is the wife of Mr. Leary, of Greenfield, Ind., and have one son. Loren and Laura are unmarried. The family tree of Mrs. Brady is as sturdy and impregnable as the gnarled oaks of the forest and it may be truthfully said that she might well feel proud of her lineage. She has maintained the admirable traits of character of her ancestors and the purity and sweetness of her own life have added materially to her mental complacency. Since the passing of her husband Mrs. Brady has traveled much, finding time to visit frequently with her children and grandchildren.

Alfred S. Bramble, farmer of Union township, was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, July 5, 1891, son of A. L. and Margaret (Beatty) Bramble.

Luke Brannon, now deceased, was formerly sheriff of Butler county, and at the time of his death held the office of county commissioner. It is doubtful if any other man in this county was more respected than he, for he proved upon many occasions that he was utterly fearless in the discharge of his duty, and that he was scrupulously upright in all of his official dealing. He was born at Hamilton, December 9, 1859, and he died in the city of his nativity, December 2, 1918, from pneumonia, at his beautiful home on Central avenue and Chestnut street. He was a son of Roger Brannon, who, with his wife, was born in County Roscommon, Ireland, but came to the United States, and located at Hamilton, Ohio, at an early date in its history. Luke Brannon was reared at

Hamilton, and attended its schools, and his useful life was spent in Butler county. Early displaying qualities which fitted him for the work of protecting society against the depredations of the criminal classes, he was elected constable of Hamilton, and held that office until 1900, when he was selected by Sheriff Peter Bisdorf as has first deputy. The record made by Mr. Brannon as a deputy resulted in his election to the office of sheriff, and he assumed the duties of that office January 4, 1904, and he was re-elected to that same office, and Butler county never had a better or more conscientious official. Perhaps the most notable event during his tenure of office was that of the Oxford riots, occasioned by the endeavor of a mob to lynch a man by the name of Spivey. Being notified of the gathering of the mob, Sheriff Brannon drove to Oxford, arriving just in time to spare the community the disgrace of a lynching, for the rope was already around the neck of the prisoner, and over a branch of one of the village trees. The dauntless sheriff forced his way to the prisoner's side, undeterred by the threats of the mob, forced back the ringleaders, and taking the rope from Spivey's neck, took him away singlehanded, and lodged him safely in the village jail. A little later, the prisoner was removed to Hamilton, where he was tried and convicted. Such action on the part of Sheriff Brannon showed his regard for his oath of office, and his determination to uphold the laws of the county he represented, no matter what the personal peril. His coolness and quiet assertion of his right to the prisoner had the proper effect on the mob, and probably the majority were very grateful to him for saving them from the commission of a serious crime. During the time he was sheriff, Mr. Brannon did not permit any congregation of gamblers and confidence men either inside or out of the Butler County Fair Grounds, and he was very successful in reducing the percentage of crime in the territory over which he had jurisdiction. While he was unflinching in his enforcement of the law, Mr. Brannon was kind and considerate in his treatment of the prisoners commited to his care, and won many of them to adopt a better mode of life. The people of Butler county were not willing to resign their claims upon Mr. Brannon, and in 1911 he was appointed juvenile officer by Judge Warren Gard, but later left this office to run for county commissioner, and was elected by a very large majority in 1913, giving to the duties of this last named office the same conscientious attention which had characterized his former career. From early youth Mr. Brannon was allied with the Democratic party, and was very active in politics, and a leader locally in his party. He held membership in the Elks, Eagles and Red Men. January 6, 1896, Mr. Brannon was married to Emma K. Yarick, and they lived together happily until her death, March 27, 1901, she having borne him two children, namely: Marie, who was born January 2, 1898, attended the Hamilton schools and the Notre Dame convent at Hamilton, from which she was graduated, marrying, in 1916, Clarence Walsh of Hamilton, and they have two children; and Luke Brannon, jr., who was born December 29, 1899, attended St. Stephen's school, and later St. Mary's high school. December

29, 1903, Mr. Brannon was married (second) to Miss Catherine Hoderlene, of Hamilton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Brannon had one son, Roger, who was born February 19, 1905, and he is now attending St. Mary's high school. Mr. Brannon was a consistent member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church of Hamilton, while Mrs. Brannon is a member of St. Stephen's. A tender husband, watchful father, kindly neighbor, and stainless public official, Mr. Brannon will long live in the memory of his fellow citizens, who are still benefiting from his official capability, and his alert vigilence in maintaining law and order.

James Aaron Bray, whose connection with the American Rolling mill at Middletown dates back for a number of years, has become widely and favorably known in his community, not only in circles where the employees of the great plant congregate, but as a fraternalist as well. He is one of his community's self-made men, having been thrown upon his own resources at a tender age, and the success that he has attained in life is purely the result of individual effort. Mr. Bray was born September 26, 1854, in Finger Lane, England, a son of James and Mary Bray. His mother died when he was two years of age, and he was reared by his stepmother, who, after the death of his father, bound the twelve-year-old lad out to learn his trade. He remained in his native land until he was seventeen years of age, at which time he decided to seek his fortune in America, and accordingly made his way to Quebec, Canada, where he arrived July 3, 1871. From that city he went to Pittsburg, Pa., and was there employed in various capacities until coming to Middletown in 1909. Since that time he has been identified with the American Rolling mill, where he is accounted a superior workman, accurate and painstaking in the performance of his duties and faithful to the interests of his employers. Mr. Bray had the following brothers and sisters: George, William and Martha, who are deceased; Moses, a traveling salesman for the London Tea company, with headquarters at Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England; Fannie, widow of George Iler, Brayville, Ky.; and Anna, deceased. August 5, 1884, Mr. Bray was united in marriage with Henrietta, daughter of George and Mary (Shives) Schwartz, the former of whom was born on a sailing vessel on the Atlantic, coming from Germany to the United States, and the latter a native of the North of Ireland. To this union there have been born three children: Nathaniel Harrison, who married Carrie Michael and has one son, James A. Bray, jr., who is a gifted young vocalist now appearing in public; James Morton, who married Henrietta Mason, of Pittsburg, Pa., and they have one son, James Henry; and Jennie, the wife of William Randolph Sefton, of Tarentum, Pa. To this union was born one daughter, Elizabeth Jane. The entire family is musical, several members being particularly gifted in this direction, and as a natural result their home, located on Garfield avenue is one at which numerous gatherings are held of a social and musical nature. Mr. Bray possesses the sterling qualities of the race from which he springs, and has made hosts of friends since coming to Middletown. He is particularly prominent among fraternalists,

having been a Mason for many years, and during the past six years has held high office in the grand lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Bray is also active in lodge matters and is past worthy matron of Prosser chapter, No. 367, O. E. S., and is a lady whose generous impulses have won her numerous friendships. She and her husband are members of the Presbyterian church.

David R. Breitenbecher. For a number of years combining farming and school teaching and achieving success in both industry and profession, David R. Breitenbecher, a very substantial resident of Butler county, may justly be numbered with its representative men. He is a native of Butler county, Ohio, born near Jacksonboro, son of George C. and Catherine (Gingerich) Breitenbecher, who had other children, as follows: Ella, Margaret, Anna, Christian, William, Christiana, Rudolph, Bertha and Henry. As the name indicates, the family originated in Germany, but for many years it has been American and the father of Mr. Breitenbecher came from the city of Cincinnati when he located as a farmer near Seven Mile, in Butler county. The large family was comfortably reared and David R. with his brothers and sisters had public school advantages, at one time being a classmate of Governor James M. Cox. Naturally studious, Mr. Breitenbecher early chose a career in the educational field, in which he has continued for twenty-nine years, and during this time he has taught one year in the Jacksonboro district; sixteen years in the Shiloh school; four years in the Fall; four years in the Elk Creek and has completed his fourth year in the Kumler school, where he is still engaged. He has a teacher's life certificate and is well known in educational circles all through this section, his success as an instructor justifying the high value placed on his ability by his fellow citizens. Not alone, however, is he devoting himself to educational problems, for he is operating the old home farm of 135 acres, keeping up its old-time reputation for grain and stock. In his political views he is a Democrat. He was reared in the United Brethren religious body and has always been conscientious in church observances.

Edward Brelsford. The position occupied by Edward Brelsford among the substantial agriculturists of Butler county is the result of long years of honorable dealing and unremitting industry. While he has followed other vocations at times, farming has been his chief vocation and in it he has found prosperity and the means of making a place for himself among the men whose life works have not been wasted. Mr. Brelsford was born in his present township, that of Wayne, Butler county, Ohio, October 30, 1866, his parents being Pierson and Sarah (Anspach) Brelsford. His father was born on the same farm, while his mother was a native of the Keystone state. On the paternal side he belongs to one of the old families of Butler county, which was founded here by his grandparents, who, as young married people, came to this locality and secured 160 acres of unimproved land from the United States Government. They won the respect of the community by the industrious manner in which they did the preliminary work of clearing and cultivating the land, and their many excellencies of mind and heart placed them

EDWARD BRELSFORD AND FAMILY

in the confidence of their fellow-pioneers. They were the parents of the following children: Pierson, the father of Edward; Laura; and William H., who served as a private in an Ohio Volunteer Infantry regiment during the Civil war. The Anspach family, which originated in this country in Pennsylvania, moved at an early date from that state to Indiana, and then came to Ohio, locating in Madison township, Butler county, where the maternal grandparents of Edward Brelsford continued to live and to follow agricultural pursuits during the remainder of long and honorable lives. Among their children were two sons, Marion and Michael, who served as Union soldiers during the Civil war. Pierson Brelsford grew up in Wayne township, and after his marriage settled near the village of Jacksonboro, on the old home farm, where the mother died after bearing her husband eight children: Samuel, William and James, who are deceased; Edward, of this review; John H., who makes his home on the old place of which he is the owner; Frank M., a member of the board of commissioners of Butler county and a prominent and leading business man of Trenton; and Clara and Ida, both of whom are deceased. After the death of the mother of these children, Pierson Brelsford moved to Middletown. He was united in marriage with Miss Ida Taylor, by whom he had one son: Hubert. His second wife also passing away, he married for his third wife Miss Anspach, and they spent the balance of their lives at Middeltown. Mr. Brelsford was one of the universally esteemed men of his day and locality, and at various times was called upon by his fellow-citizens to perform public service. In addition to acting as township trustee he was township treasurer of Wayne township for a period of fourteen years, and his public record was an excellent one. Edward Brelsford was given his educational training in the public school at Shiloh and immediately after completing his education applied himself vigorously to the serious business of earning a living. For a time he divided his energies between farming and operating a sawmill in his home locality, but eventually disposed of his interests and went to Colorado, where for five years he was identified with an agricultural venture. Not caring for that state, he returned to Ohio and was engaged again in running a sawmill and farming, also threshing, and in 1907 bought his present farm, the old homestead, where he has since resided. He now has 204 acres of land in a good state of cultivation, and his farm has been increased in valuation by the erection of a number of substantial buildings, including a modern home, and the installment of modern facilities, machinery and improvements. He is also the owner of forty-three acres in another part of the county, and is rightly accounted one of the locality's substantial men. His civic interests are centered in all that relates to education, he serving most efficiently as school director for eighteen years. He is interested in fraternalism to the extent of taking an active interest in the lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, to all of which he belongs, and his religious faith is that of the United Brethren church. During the war period he showed his patriotism by gener-

ously supporting the Red Cross, Liberty Loan and other activities. November 15, 1888, Mr. Brelsford married Catherine Jacquart, of Greenbush, Preble county, Ohio, and they have five children: Clara, who married Charles Walters of Madison township and has one child,—Merle; Rufus, who married Mary Wagner, and has two children,—Walter and Clayton; and Misses Irma and Zelma, who reside on the farm with their parents; and Aletha who is also at home. Irma is a graduate of the high school and now holds a very important position in an office in the Porter building at Middletown.

Frank M. Brelsford. Equally as a business man, a public official and a thoroughgoing, constructive citizen, Frank M. Brelsford has impressed himself upon the people of Trenton, where he is engaged in several lines of commercial endeavor and is also acting capably in the capacity of county commissioner. Mr. Brelsford was born in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, March 21, 1873, a son of Pierson and Sarah (Anspach) Brelsford, the former born on the Brelsford homestead and the latter in Pennsylvania. The Brelsford family was founded in Butler county by the grandparents of Mr. Brelsford who, as young people, came here and took up 160 acres of land from the United States Government. Their children were: Pierson; Laura; and William, who served in an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil war. The Anspachs, originating in Pennsylvania, moved therefrom to Indiana, and then transferred their place of residence to Madison township, Butler county, where they resided for many years until their deaths. Among their children were two sons, Marion and Michael, who served as Union soldiers during the Civil war. Following their marriage, Pierson and Sarah Brelsford settled near Jacksonboro, on an old farm, where the mother passed away after having borne her husband eight children: Samuel, William and James, who are deceased; Edward, a resident of Jacksonboro; John, who lives on the old home place; Frank M., of this review; and Clara and Ida, who are deceased. After the death of his first wife the father moved to Middletown, where he lived the rest of his life and where he was married to Ida Taylor, by whom he had one son: Hubert. Mr. Brelsford was one of the highly esteemed men of his day and locality, and in addition to acting as township trustee was township treasurer for a period of fourteen years. Frank M. Brelsford attended the rural schools of Wayne township and the high school at Jacksonboro, and when he left school settled down to the vocation of farming. He was married August 10, 1897, to Anna Pfalzgraf, of Trenton, daughter of John Pfalzgraf, and following his marriage removed to a farm near Jacksonboro. This he operated for some twenty years when he disposed of his interests therein and moved to Trenton, here engaging successfully in the butcher business. As time passed he became interested in real estate matters, and eventually became one of the organizers of the Butler County Real Estate company, his partners in this concern being A. L. Skank, Thomas Bell and A. K. Augsperger. In addition to being one of the leading and successful business men of his city, Mr. Brelsford has taken an

FRANK M. BRELSFORD AND FAMILY

J. H. BRELSFORD AND FAMILY

active and helpful part in civic affairs, and has served eight years as trustee in his home township. In November, 1918, he was elected for his first term as a member of the board of commissioners of Butler county, and is capably discharging the duties attending such membership. He has the confidence of all who have had dealings with him, as a man of integrity, business honor and personal probity. During the war period he took an active part in all war activities, particularly those of the Red Cross. He is well known in fraternal circles, holding membership in the local lodges of the Masons, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brelsford: Carrie, a graduate of Oxford university, who has been a teacher for three years; Helen, a graduate of the same instiution, who has taught in the public schools for one year; May, who is engaged in taking a business course; and Pierson and Francis, who are attending the public schools.

John H. Brelsford. The progressive and enterprising exponents of agriculture found in Wayne township include no more industrious farmer than John H. Brelsford, the owner of a 200-acre tract, and a citizen of standing and public spirit. Mr. Brelsford has resided in this community all of his life and has won prosperity through his industry and good management, and at the same time has attained public confidence and esteem. He was born on the old farm which he now owns, in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, January 25, 1871, a son of Pierson and Sarah (Anspach) Brelsford, the former also born on the old Brelsford place and the latter a native of Pennsylvania. The Brelsford family is one of the old ones of this locality, having been founded by the grandparents of Mr. Brelsford who, as a young married couple, came to Butler county and took up 160 acres of land from the United States Government. They were highly respected people who worked industriously, and who reared the following family to honorable lives: Pierson, the father of John H.; Laura; and William, who served in an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil war. The Anspach family, originating in Pennsylvania, moved from that state to Indiana, and then transferred their place of residence to Madison township, Butler county, where the maternal grandparents of Mr. Brelsford resided for many years and where their deaths occurred. Among their children were two sons, Marion and Michael, who served as Union soldiers during the war between the states. Following their marriage, Pierson and Sarah (Anspach) Brelsford settled near Jacksonboro, on the old home farm, where the mother passed away after bearing her husband eight children: Samuel, William and James, who are deceased; Edward, a resident of Wayne township; John H., of this review; Frank M., a member of the board of Butler county commissioners and a leading business man of Trenton; and Clara and Ida, both deceased. After the death of his first wife Pierson Brelsford moved to Middletown, where he married Ida Taylor, by whom he had one son: Hubert L. Pierson Brelsford was one of the highly esteemed men of his day

and locality, and in addition to acting as township trustee was township treasurer for a period of fourteen years. To the public school at Shiloh, Ohio, John H. Brelsford is indebted for his educational training, and when he laid aside his studies he adopted as his life work the vocation of farming, an occupation in which he has since been engaged with constantly increasing success. He is now the owner of a property approximating 200 acres, upon which he carries on extensive operations in a progressive and practical manner, and through his good management and intelligent use of modern facilities, is making his land pay him handsomely for the work which he expends upon it. He has always lived on the old home place, where his chief interests lie, and public affairs have held out no appeal to him save as they have affected his spirit of good citizenship. He has supported good movements and is an advocate of good roads and other measures fostered by men of public spirit and advanced and enlightened views. Mr. Brelsford holds membership in the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also in the various circles in which he moves, and he is also a thirty-second degree Mason. He was married December 19, 1900, to Abbie J. Jacquart, of Greenbush, Preble county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Brelsford are the parents of no children of their own, but out of the goodness of their hearts are rearing an adopted son, Edward Summers.

Hiram Brewer, son of George R. and Mary (Dumford) Brewer, was born in Brown county, Ohio, March 23, 1887. The parents moved to Williamsburg, Ohio, where Hiram was educated in the public schools. Upon leaving school, he went west, where he lived for many years. Six years ago he returned to Middletown, Ohio, and secured employment with the Gardner-Harvey Paper company. Here he remained four years, when he took a position with the American Rolling Mill company. He enlisted for service in the late war and went to France, where he remained one year, six months of which were spent in a cook camp at Gondrecourt. He received his discharge early in 1919, and returned to Middletown to become a fireman at the plant of the American Rolling Mill company. Mr. Brewer had seven brothers and sisters: Earl, now in Washington; Laura, Mrs. Doyle Malott, of Williamsburg, Ohio; Albert, in the west; John, in Adams county, Ohio; Ida, Mrs. James Malott, of Hartwell, Ohio; Ellen, Mrs. Sam. Malott, of Williamsburg; Arthur, deceased. Mr. Brewer's father served in the Civil war as a member of the 89th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry; has parents still live at Williamsburg. Mr. Brewer is a member of the order of Moose; and is liberal in his political views.

John Brosius. One of the leading agriculturists of his locality, it has been the fortune of John Brosius to have realized many of his worthy ambitions and through the exercise of good judgment and business sagacity to have wrested from his opportunities financial and general success. This worthy citizen and highly respected farmer of Hanover township, Butler county, was born January 19. 1861, in Ross township, this county, a son of John Brosius, and

a grandson of Daniel Brosius. Daniel Brosius was born October 7, 1806, in Pennsylvania, and as a young man came to Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, where he cleared a tract of land, made a home, and was married January 5, 1823, to Rebecca Parks, who was born June 24, 1801. They passed the rest of their lives as agriculturists in Ross township, where the following children were born to them: Elizabeth, born June 15, 1824, married Robert Lewis and died December 30, 1904; William, born June 13, 1827, lived in Indiana and later in Butler county, Ohio, and died April 8, 1908; James, born September 26, 1828, died March 27, 1853; John, born July 9, 1830, died January 20, 1861; Margaret, born February 18, 1832, died October 27, 1914; Isabelle, born December 12, 1834, died July 19, 1914; Daniel, born November 21, 1838, lived with his sisters Margaret and Isabelle at Millville, and died November 21, 1916; Rebecca, born December 17, 1842, married Thomas Flynn, went to Indiana, and died March 29, 1881; Eliza Ann, born January 16, 1845, died March 10, 1854; Janet, born July 3, 1848, married Frank Gordon, lived in Hanover township, and died September 29, 1888; Alice, born April 13, 1850, died July 8, 1851. John Brosius was born in Ross township, where he received only an ordinary educational training in the public school in the vicinity of his father's farm, on which he resided until his marriage to Amanda Timbreman, who was born November 6, 1840, in Ross township, and died January 24, 1894, as a Universalist. John Brosius was always a farmer and was a man well known and highly esteemed in his community. The only child of his parents to grow to maturity, John Brosius of this review received a common school education, and after the death of his father he and his widowed mother went to make their home with his maternal grandfather, David Timbreman. There he resided until his marriage, April 5, 1885, to Mary Jane Pocock, who was born in Hanover township, on the present Brosius farm, and a daughter of Salem and Deziah (Clawson) Pocock. Mr. Pocock was born in Liberty township, Butler county, July 19, 1823, and was an invalid for seventeen years prior to his death, July 22, 1908, while his wife was born April 13, 1834, and died July 24, 1908. He was always a farmer and highly respected in his community, voted the Democratic ticket, and he and his faithful wife were members of the Baptist church. They had three children: Annetta, born December 25, 1861, who married John A. Kumler, a retired farmer of Dennison, Tex., with three children,—Elizabeth, who married Burton Baldwin of Texas, Alvin P., who lives in Colorado, and Salem G., a surveyor of western Texas; Mary Jane, born November 26, 1834, who became Mrs. Brosius; and Lizzie, born March 31, 1867, who died at the age of twelve years. Salem Pocock was a son of James and Harriet Pocock, who were married August 22, 1822, the former having been born July 27, 1791, and the latter March 28, 1802. Their children were: Salem, born July 14, 1823; David, born June 28, 1826; William, born October 12, 1826; Joseph, born February 9, 1828; Margaret, born October 10, 1829; Martha Jane, born February 21, 1831; Reuben, born January 27, 1833; Elizabeth, born December 7, 1835; John, born September 6, 1837;

Martha and Lucy, twins, born September 22, 1839; Daniel, born September 14, 1841; and Rachael Ann, born September 5, 1844. Deziah (Clawson) Pocock was a daughter of James and Rebecca (Vail) Clawson, who were married January 2, 1816, and whose children were: John R., who married Ann Bloomfield, January 15, 1839; Stephen V., who married Rebecca Pocock, February 24, 1841; Jeptha, who married Susan Dubolt, February 1, 1846; Hezekiah Scudder, who married Mary Clawson, December 22, 1853; Wilson T., who married Harriett Fulkerson, April 12, 1854; William B., who married Lydia Ligett, January 4, 1855; Rebecca E., who married William Clawson, February 5, 1857; Salem D., who married Deziah Clawson, December 25, 1860; Elizabeth, who married Charles S. Drake, January 19, 1862. James Clawson married a second time, Elizabeth Weaver, August 2, 1870, and for his third wife married Mary A. Louthan, October 1, 1871. The deaths of the foregoing were: Samuel, July 29, 1828; Asa, August 11, 1829; Louis P., April 5, 1844; James R., June 21, 1861; Mary, August 10, 1864; Rebecca, March 29, 1870; Elizabeth, March 29, 1870; William, December 23, 1872; James, April 28, 1885; Stephen, September 27, 1891; and Jeptha, December 10, 1897. The birth record of the foregoing was: Joseph, May 31, 1795; Rebecca, November 12, 1798; James R., January 7, 1818; Jeptha, June 3, 1823; Asa, December 6, 1824; Samuel B., May 7, 1827; Wilson T., January 1, 1832; Mary, August 28, 1834; Deziah, April 13, 1837; Elizabeth, January 3, 1840; and Lewis, March 4, 1843. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brosius located on the old place for four years and since then have made their home on their present property. They have in all 237 acres of well-improved land, on which Mr. Brosius carries on farming in a manner that shows he is thoroughly conversant with modern methods. In addition to conducting a general farming business, he has been successful as a raiser of Poland-China hogs. In his work he is ably assisted by his only son, Corwin Brosius, who was born December 15, 1895, a graduate of the Hamilton high school, and a progressive and enterprising young agriculturist who has many friends throughout the vicinity of the home farm. He, like his father, is a Republican, and the elder man has taken an active and intelligent interest in township affairs for many years, although rather as a good citizen and a supporter of worth-while and beneficial movements than as a seeker for personal preferment at the hands of his party or his fellow-citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Brosius and their son are members of the United Brethren church.

Benjamin Haywood Brown. The skillful and energetic farmer of Butler county, especially if possessed of fertile and productive land, can always be sure of a substantial return for his labor, but many of the enterprising men of this section have not confined their attention to general agricultural activities, but have combined with farming certain special lines of endeavor. Benjamin Haywood Brown, the owner of a splendid property in Oxford township, is known as a thorough and practical farmer, and is also an authority on fruit raising, having for the past twenty years been a judge of fruit, vegetables and grain at county and state fairs, and also

has the distinction of being the only living charter-member of the Oxford Farmers club. Mr. Brown was born in Union county, Ind., September 6, 1846, a son of Lewis and Mary Eleanor (Knowlton) Brown, natives of Massachusetts, the former born in 1900, the latter in 1906. They grew up and were married at Wooster, Mass., whence they went to Buffalo, N. Y., and came west to Hamilton, Ohio, by boat, then traveling overland to Union county, Ind., where they settled in the vicinity of Yankeetown, a community which they assisted in building up. Mr. Brown had a saw and grist mill in Indiana, as well as land, but in 1848 disposed of his interests there and came to Oxford township, and in 1852 bought the land on which his son, Benjamin H., now resides, on Brown's road, two miles north of Oxford, which road was named in honor of Lewis Brown. He had 160 acres of land, on which he set out the trees around the buildings, later remodeled the house, and built the barn. Mr. Brown was a very progressive man, a firm believer in good roads and a supporter of free pikes, and put in the first pike in his neighborhood. He died on this place at an advanced age, in the faith of the Presbyterian church, to which belonged also his wife, who passed away at the age of sixty-five years. They were the parents of these children: Henry, Waldo, Ed, Emma, Myra and Benjamin H. Henry Brown of this family was a teacher at Hamilton for ten years and principal of the public school at Oxford. In 1864 he enlisted in the 100-day service and after the close of the Civil war went to Lane seminary and graduated. After thirty years of preaching in Wisconsin he went to Kansas City, where his death occurred in 1897. He married Mary, a daughter of Prof. William Ballentine, of Lane seminary. Waldo Brown was also a teacher for many years, later became agricultural editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, was on the staff of the Ohio Farmer for ten years, and was state lecturer of farmers' institutes in every county of Ohio, for a period of thirty years. He was first married to Hyla Sample and after her death to Miss Laura Cross. He was also in the 100-day service during the Civil war, and died in 1906. Ed, who was a carpenter by trade, enlisted in the Union army in 1861 and served three years during the Civil war in West Virginia and Missouri, subsequently being with General Sherman in his famous march to the sea. In 1870 he went to Kansas and secured a farm, which he sold and went to California, settling in Sawtelle, where he now resides. He married Hattie Ross. Emma married Ezra Peabody and in 1874 went to Indiana, where her husband was in the drug business, from where they moved to Minneapolis, Minn., in 1888. He died in 1916. Myra, who was unmarried, died in 1918 in Oxford township. Benjamin Haywood Brown was educated in the Oxford schools and Miami university, from which latter he was graduated in 1868. He then taught school for a time, but eventually settled down to farming and raising fruit of all kinds. He also raises Polled Durham cattle and Shropshire sheep. As noted before, for the past two decades his services have been much in demand as a judge of fruits, vegetables and grain at state and county fairs. He became a charter member at the organization of the Oxford

Farmers club, at Oxford, of which city he was a resident for eight years, and still belongs to this organization, which is limited to a membership of twelve persons, meeting at the homes of the different members. He has always taken a great deal of interest in this club, of which he is the sole living charter member, as he was also in all movements for the betterment of the community and the county. Like his father, he has been a progressive man, and he and his brother Waldo fathered the movement which built the first telephone line out of Oxford. A devout member of the Presbyterian church, he was superintendent of the Sunday school for over ten years. Although a stalwart Republican in his political views, he has never been an office seeker. Mr. Brown was married in 1871 to Mary Sawyer, of Cincinnati, a daughter of Milo Sawyer, of Virginia, an early settler of Cincinnati and a carriage maker by trade, who went to Santa Barbara, Calif., in 1874, and died there in 1875. Mrs. Brown died in 1875, leaving two children. Fannie, the elder, is a graduate of Oxford Female college and the wife of Joseph Cramer, a banker and druggist of Covington, Ohio. They have one son, Hugh. Harry, the younger of the two children of Benjamin H. and Mary (Sawyer) Brown, is a graduate of Miami university and a farmer of Oxford township. He married Eva Brinkman, a teacher in the Cincinnati public schools, and they have one son, Harold. Benjamin H. Brown married for his second wife Virginia C. Dare, of Cincinnati, Ohio, with whom he was united in 1882. She is a daughter of Clement Dare, who was chief engineer of Cincinnati for many years, for some time a railroad man, and later a farmer in Oxford township, where he died in 1882. His widow was Rebecca, who died in 1913. Mr. Brown has four sons by his second union. Ralph Dare, who after graduating from Miami university, took a course at Columbus in engineering, and then taught school for two years. He was with the Baltimore & Ohio railroad for two years as a civil engineer, but for the past ten years has been with the O'Gara Coal company, of Illinois. He married Ruth Hines, of Harrisburg, Ill., and they have two sons,—Ralph Dare, jr., and Robert Roy. Clifford Knowlton, the next son of Benjamin H. Brown, graduated from Miami university, following which he took a course in school work at the Springfield (Mass.) Y. M. C. A. He was located at Cincinnati for two years, in the State University of New York three years, and at Columbia university for a like period, and is now state secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Columbus, Ohio. He married Marion McAllister of Watertown, N. Y., and they have one son, Knowlton. Roy Brown, the next son, met a tragic death, when twenty-one years of age, being killed by a railroad train. The youngest son, Raymond T., attended Miami university, and is now associated in farming with his father, is single, and resides at home.

Henry Brown, the proprietor of a popular and successful grocery at Venice, where he was formerly engaged in the hardware trade, was born in Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, December 25, 1870, a son of James and Amanda (Hungerford) Brown, and a grandson of Daniel Brown, of the same township, and Richard

Hungerford, of Indiana. The parents of Mr. Brown passed their entire existences as tillers of the soil in Ross township, and there passed away with the respect of the people of their community after long, useful and God-fearing lives. They were the parents of the following children: Richard; Albridge; Daniel; William; Henry, of this review; Sarah, who married John Butterfield; Mildred, deceased, who married J. R. Bevis; Rhoda, who became the second wife of J. R. Bevis; and Elizabeth, who married R. L. Cone. The boyhood and youth of Henry Brown were passed in farming and attending the public schools, and the former constituted his chief occupation until 1904, in which year he embarked in business at Venice as the proprietor of a hardware store. For a time he devoted himself exclusively to the handling of light, shelf and heavy hardware, paints, oils, glass, etc., but later added a grocery line to his stock. This venture turned out so satisfactorily that eventually he gave up his hardware business and now devotes himself entirely to his grocery line, in which he has built up an excellent trade. One of his specialties is the handling of the Kroger products, of which he is the distributor in his community. Mr. Brown is a Democrat in his political tendencies. He is a past master of the local Masonic lodge and belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His support of all war activities was loyal and reflective of his worth as a public-spirited citizen. Mr. Brown was married in 1905 to Ida, daughter of Rile and Rilly Burke, of Ross township, and to this union there has been born one child: Helen, a graduate of the Venice High school and of business college. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Brown married a sister of hers, Mildred Burke. John Burke, a brother of Mrs. Brown, fought as a volunteer soldier in the American Army during the war with the Philippines and saw active service on those islands.

Howard Brown. Through unceasing labor and persistent application, Howard Brown has won his way to a position of comfortable independence in his community and to a place in the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens at Middletown, where he is now employed as a roller in the plant of the American Rolling Mill company. Mr. Brown was born in Indiana, across the state line about ten miles from College Corner, Ohio, August 19, 1884, a son of William H. and Sarah (Brauchla) Brown, the former of whom is still living. Sarah Elizabeth Brown, wife of Wm. H. Brown and eldest daughter of George and Susan Brauchla, was born September 1, 1857, and died July 10, 1892, aged thirty-four years, ten months and nine days. She was united in marriage to Wm. H. Brown March 6, 1882. To this union were born two sons and one daughter. With these she leaves father, mother, four brothers and one sister to mourn her departure. Her death occurred at her home near Fairhaven, Ohio. She was a loving wife, a kind Christian mother and though it is hard to give her up, we find comfort in the words: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." She united with the church and was baptized under the labors of Rev. Elliot Evans in the eighteenth year of her age and during this time grew in respect and esteem with those who knew her best. She often talked of

death to her husband and mother and often repeated the words, "Lord have mercy on me." On the day of her death she said: "Mother, I'll die, I'll die." Her mother said, "If you are only prepared to die." "Oh! Mother, I am, I am!" Rev. Jones delivered an eloquent tribute to her noble life from the following beautiful text, found in the twenty-fifth verse of the eleventh chapter of St. John: "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life; He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." His brother, George, married Hattie Sims, and is engaged in the dairy business; and his sister, Lucy, is the wife of John Busseer, superintendent of the city water works of Middletown. Mr. Brown received a common school education and then went to work in a mill in his home community, following which for some years he was employed in various communities. About 1905 he came to Middletown, where he became identified with the American Rolling mill, and has since become one of his company's valued and trusted employees. For the past several years he has acted in the capacity of a roller, and has evidenced the possession of abilities which make him a reliable and expert cog in the machinery which operates the mill. Mr. Brown was married April 29, 1904, to Catherine, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Healy) Byron, whose other children are: Thomas; Nellie, who is now Mrs. Chris Pollis, of Middletown; and Ada, the wife of Edward Castel, of Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown there have been born three children: Margaret May, Melva Marie and Howard William. Mr. Brown is a Democrat in his political adherence, but has never sought public office. He belongs to the fraternal order of Eagles, and he and Mrs. Brown are consistent and generous members of the Christian church. Mr. Brown is a man of fine appearance and presence and affable manner, and is extremely popular with a wide circle of friends. His home, erected in 1912, at 924 Wilson street, bears eloquent testimony to the taste and refinement of Mr. and Mrs. Brown and those practical traits of character and thrift which avoid the superfluous and ornate.

Milton B. Brown. The monotony which often ensues from the continuous following of a certain line of work has never been a feature of the career of Milton B. Brown. Gifted with diversified talents this industrious citizen of College Corner has followed the vocations of farmer and grocer, and in both capacities has attained a due measure of success. At the present time he is the owner of a thriving grocery, and at the same time is taking an active part in civic affairs, at various times having ably and conscientiously discharged the duties pertaining to various offices within the gift of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Brown was born in Clermont county, Ohio, September 12, 1860, a son of William and Anna (Shannon) Brown. William Brown was born in New Jersey and as a young man moved to Brown county, Ohio, where he met and married Miss Shannon, who was a native of Virginia. Following their marriage they settled near Batavia in Clermont county, but eventually the father located in Preble county, where he completed his career as a farmer near College Corner, and there died in 1887, Mrs. Brown having died in Clermont county when her son Milton was eight years old.

There were four children in the family: Samuel M., of Butler county; Sarah (Brown) Warner, of Panora, Iowa, who died at the age of thirty-eight years; Milton B.; and Mrs. L. A. Pentecost, of Cicero, Ind. Milton B. Brown was educated in the public schools and as a youth began farming, a vocation which he carried on for some years. Later he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, as a clerk in the store of H. L. Bake & Son, and in 1914 embarked in the grocery business on his own account and has continued therein to the present time. He carries a large and well-selected stock of staple and fancy groceries and enjoys an excellent trade, which has been built up through his industry, courtesy and fair dealing. He has made numerous friends among his customers and has established a reputation for integrity in his business operations, so that his standing is high in commercial circles. As a good citizen with the interests of his community at heart, Mr. Brown has identified himself with public affairs, and has served efficiently as a member of the town council, as town clerk and as president of the board of education, on which board he served for fourteen years. He has always supported beneficial movements and is accounted an influential and helpful resident of his locality. He married Jessie Graham, of Hopewell, Ohio, and they have an adopted child, Sarah Dales, a niece of Mr. Brown. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Orin Brown. One of the oldest native-born residents of Ross township, Butler county, is Orin Brown, whose entire life has been passed on the property which he now occupies. Here he was born and here he has labored, and while for some years ill health has incapacitated him from active labor, he still makes his influence felt in the farm's management and operation and continues to occupy a place as one of his township's prominent and highly esteemed citizens. Mr. Brown was born February 27, 1836, a son of Daniel and Catherine (Harshey) (Smith) Brown, the former a native of Berkeley county, W. Va., and the latter of Pennsylvania. The eldest child by his father's second marriage, he secured his educational training in the public school at College Hill, and when he was ready to enter upon an independent career it was upon the property that has always been his home. He was married April 7, 1874, to Caroline Stephan, daughter of Helena and Charles Stephan, a sketch of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work in the review of Charles Stephan, brother of Mrs. Brown. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brown settled down to housekeeping in their present home, which was remodeled in 1917, and which is now one of the most beautiful in this section of the county. The home property of 150 acres is worked on shares, under the supervision of Mr. Brown, who despite his advanced years and the poor state of his health, still retains the excellent business judgment that assisted him to success in the days of his active labor. He is a Democrat in politics and continues to take an interest in township affairs, and to lend his assistance and influence to measures which promise to benefit his community. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown there have been born the following children: Helen, the wife of Dr. O. J. Smith of Venice; Agnes, who has

remained with the home folks; Lulu, who has been teaching school at Venice for a number of years; Florence, who also taught school and is now the wife of Paul Weissinger of Fairfield township; Ora, who taught school four years in Ross township; and Carol, the widow of Dr. F. I. Hage. There are two grandchildren, Paul and Bernadine Smith.

Philip Brown. High upon the list of the well-to-do self-made men of Butler county who, from small beginnings have advanced themselves to positions of independence and recognized prestige in their communities, stands the name of Philip Brown. When he entered upon his career, Mr. Brown was possessed of no advantages save those to be found in connection with his earnest ambition, his determination to succeed and his willingness and ability to do well whatever he undertook, but these qualities have proven sufficient to gain him success in his chosen vocation of agriculture and to make him one of the substantial men of Hanover township. Mr. Brown was born in Germany and was a small child when brought to the United States by his father, George Brown, his mother having died in Cincinnati. He was given only such educational advantages as he could secure through irregular attendance at the public school, and for the most part his education came from the school of hard work and experience, but he was an ambitious youth who made the most of his opportunities and assimilated whatever knowledge came his way, so that he grew up with an education that served his purpose. For a time he worked at various occupations at Port Royal and in Indiana, and then located at Glendale, Ohio, where he was married in 1873 to Anna, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Pepper, her father being a stone mason and highly respected citizen of that community. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Brown settled down to farming in the vicinity of Glendale, where they made their home for about a quarter of a century, working industriously and conserving a goodly share of their earnings. In 1900 they changed their residence to Hanover township, Butler county, where Mr. Brown bought a farm of fifty acres, and here he has since continued to carry on his operations, in a progressive, modern manner. From time to time he has added to the improvements on his property, which now presents a prosperous appearance, and his buildings are in an excellent state of repair and his equipment modern and effective. His farm has proved of sufficient interest to him so that he has not entered into other lines of business, nor has he cared for the doubtful honors of public life or office holding, although he takes an interest in enterprises which have been promulgated for the betterment of the community, and is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party. During the period that he and Mrs. Brown have resided in Butler county, they have formed numerous lasting friendships, and the manner in which Mr. Brown has carried on his transactions has served to gain him the reputation of being a man of sound principle and good business ethics. During the war period he was a generous supporter of all worthy causes. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the parents of four children: Clara, who was first married to Frank Luegens, by whom she had two chil-

MR. AND MRS. PHILIP BROWN

dren, Luella and Gertrude, and after his death married David Oyler, a farmer of Hanover township, and they have one child, Evelyn Ann; Frank, a farmer who is operating in Hanover township, married Mary Conrad, and has three children, John, Clarence and Philip; Wilhelmina, who married John Stumpf, a farmer of Hanover township, and has six children, John, Carl, Clara C., Robert P., Earl and Elizabeth A.; William, lives in Hamilton and has nine children as follows: Eleanor, Walter, Helen, John, Mabel Luella, Hazel, deceased; Frank and Lloyd. All the children were given good educational advantages and reared to lives of industry and honesty so that they have been credits to their communities and to the worthy name which they bear.

Isaiah Bryant, implement dealer of Oxford, Ohio, was born in Oxford township. He is a son of James C. and Nancy A. (Little) Bryant. He received his education in the local common schools, and after finishing his courses, turned to farming, which he enjoyed and of which he made a success. In the year 1904, he entered the business of selling farm implements, and at the time was also engaged in stock raising, his particular work lying in the field of raising purebred Poland China hogs. In this he was active with W. B. Wallace. In the implement business, he carries the finest line of merchandise, including the International Harvester company's, the John Deere company's, and the Oliver Plow company's products. His business has expanded greatly in the past few years, and the store is famous as an institution of that type of trade in this entire section. In 1884 he was married to Anna D. Ringwood, daughter of George and Frances (Martindale) Ringwood of Oxford township. A brother, Eugene, of Mr. Bryant's wife, married Stella Piper, of Oxford township. To Mr. and Mrs. Bryant have been born the following children: Howard R., who married Clara Ault, and is in business in Oxford; Bertha B., who was married to Leonard Osborn, now living in Indianapolis; Della C., who married Jack Stevenson, now in Indianapolis; Estella, who became the wife of Ed Kealing, now living in Indianapolis; George, who is in business with his father, and who recently returned from service in the World war, in which service he ranked a corporal. He was discharged honorably from the army April 4, 1919. Mr. Bryant is a member of the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is a Democrat. In war work he was especially active, accomplishing signally splendid patriotic work.

James A. Bryant. In the selection of Mr. James A. Bryant for township school trustee not only was enviable testimonial given of the high esteem in which he is held by the community as a citizen, but his well known executive ability and keen business judgment was taken into consideration. Those who know him best assert that from the beginning of his term as school trustee Mr. Bryant manifested a keen solicitude for the welfare of the school children and has given every evidence that he is the right man in the right place. The fact that he was born in Butler county, having first seen the light of day in the old homestead on the Thomas farm in Milford township, July 3, 1853, may to a degree reveal the reason why he manifests such concern in bettering school conditions in this county.

Incidentally, it might be stated that both his parents and grandparents on both sides were born in Butler county, which is a distinction of which one might well feel proud. He attended school at Oakland and later was a student at the university at Oxford one and one-half years. After leaving the university he engaged in farming and has proved a decided success in this field of endeavor. His training at the university was such that he made good use of it in getting the most out of his land. In addition to his school work and farming he manifests much interest in fraternal and social affairs of the community. He is a Mason and is a Democrat in politics. Also it might be stated that he was one of the most energetic workers of Oxford township in the World war activities. His parents, James C. and Nancy (Little) Bryant, are among the oldest and most highly respected people of the county. They were the parents of six children, four of whom grew to maturity: James A.; John, who died in infancy; Daniel, Mirandy, and Isaiah. The parents of James C. Bryant and wife, deceased, were also old settlers of Butler county, and were buried in Oxford cemetery. The grandfather of James A. Bryant erected the first grist mill in Oxford township and also was a pioneer cloth weaver. Considering the fact that Mr. Bryant, who married Miss A. A. Flinn, daughter of Milton and Margaret Flinn of Butler county, is the father of two children, Florence and James, both married, it is likely that the name of Bryant will be perpetuated in Butler county in a material way. Miss Florence married Clayton Miller and James married Inez Cramer, the latter couple having two children.

William Truman Buehl. An employee of the American Rolling mills for the past sixteen years and one who has "made good" in whatever position he has been placed, William Truman Buehl is representative of the best type of artisans produced by Middletown, for he is essentially a product of this thriving city of the Miami valley. He was born here August 29, 1882, a son of William and Emma (Rue) Buehl, and a grandson of William and Rebecca Jane (Sawyer) Buehl of Trenton, Ohio, and William and Harriet (Cortwright) Rue, of near Hamilton, Ohio. At the time that his father died, March 28, 1900, Mr. Buehl was but eighteen years of age, but nevertheless accepted the duties devolving upon his shoulders as the head of the family, and ably assisted in the rearing of the younger children, a brother, Clayton, and two sisters, May, who is now Mrs. W. J. White, of Middletown, and Edna, now Mrs. Elmer Gravenstein, of Dayton. William Truman Buehl received his education in the public schols of Middletown, and as before noted was called upon at an early age to assist in the family support. He was ambitious, industrious and enterprising, and accepted such opportunities as presented themselves for the accumulation of an income, and was variously employed until 1903, when he entered the employ of the American Rolling mills, with which concern he has been identified ever since. His advancement with this concern has been consistent and steady, as his industry and fidelity have been rewarded from time to time, and he now occupies a position of some importance. He is a general favorite at the plant, both with his superiors and those

under his charge, and is accounted a skilled, reliable and conscientious workman, who takes a pride in his labor and who faithfully discharges his duties. Mr. Buehl was married February 21, 1906, to Miss Myrtle Mount, of Middletown, daughter of Edward and Mary (Ingle) Mount, she having been born at Middletown, February 27, 1886. Mrs. Buehl's great-grandfather was Thomas Gregory, who was born at Dublin, Ireland, in 1805, and died in 1881. Her maternal grandparents were of English birth, and owned a large lace factory at Shianigham. After the death of her mother, which occurred June 17, 1898, Mrs. Buehl became a "little mother" to her brother and sisters, and took charge of the housekeeping duties in her father's home, over which she presided until her marriage. She has a sister, Bessie, who is now Mrs. Clinton Julian; and a brother, Homer, who married Miss Florence Zartman, the accomplished daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Pressley Zartman of Dayton; and another sister, Huldah, died February 28, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Buehl are the parents of two children: Paul and Mary, who are exceptionally gifted in music and have displayed their talents before large audiences in public on a number of occasions. Both Mr. and Mrs. Buehl have numerous friends at Middletown, Mr. Buehl being liked for his genial personality, while Mrs. Buehl is admired for her splendid mind, as well as being an ideal mother. They have a pleasant and attractive home on Harrison avenue, where their friends are always made welcome. In his political views, Mr. Buehl is not inclined to be bound down by party ties, basing his beliefs on principle and casting his ballot according to these views. He and Mrs. Buehl are consistent members of the United Brethren church, in which Mrs. Buehl is the teacher of a class in the Sunday school.

H. L. Burdsall, M. D., of Lindenwald, Hamilton, Ohio, is a physician of pronounced character, whether considered from the standpoint of his professional attainments or from the viewpoint of progressive citizenship. He has been engaged in the practice of his calling at this place for fifteen years, and the various honors which have come to him are substantial tributes to his standing as a man and in his profession. Doctor Burdsall was born at Williamsburg, Ohio, in 1878, a son of Rev. John and Martha Burdsall. He received his early education in the country schools and after his graduation from the Williamsburg High school, in the class of 1897, became a school teacher in Clermont county, where for four years he was engaged in instructing the youthful mind in country districts. Next, Mr. Burdsall attended Valparaiso university, and then began the prosecution of his medical studies at The Ohio Medical college, at Cincinnati, where he received the degree of M. D. in 1905, the year which he commenced practice at Lindenwald. There is no profession in which the admonition to "make haste slowly" can be more advantageously followed than in that of medicine. However great their native talents, the unformed fledglings do not reach the heights, but those whose education and training have enabled them to survey a broad field of knowledge before they fairly entered the activities of their career. In these days a thorough and broad education is largely taking the place of the long, and ofttimes wearing experi-

ence, which in the earlier periods was considered essential to honorable elevation in any of the professions or walks of life. Doctor Burdsall is a typical, modern physician, who has laid a broad foundation for continuous personal development and professional progress. Since he has located at Lindenwald he has engaged in progressive professional work, his practice being general in character, and has won a place in the ranks of his calling which is a full justification of his faithful and careful preparation for his professional career. He has held all offices in the Butler County Medical society, of which he is still a member as he is also of the Ohio State Medical society, the Union District Medical society and the American Medical association. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows, and an independent voter, but takes only that interest in political matters that is displayed by every good and public-spirited citizen. In October, 1918, he was commissioned a captain in the United States Medical Corps, and rendered three months of service at Camp Greenleaf, Fort Oglethorpe. Doctor Burdsall married Miss Myrtle Conner, of Williamsburg, Ohio, and they have one daughter: Marjorie. The Doctor and his family reside in a beautiful home at Lindenwald.

John F. Burer is claimed by Fairfield township, Butler county, as one of its progressive farmers and loyal and public-spirited citizens, and he is a scion of one of the old and honored families of the beautiful Miami valley, as may be seen by reference to the family data appearing on other pages, in the sketch of the career of his brother William, who likewise is a resident of Fairfield township. John F. Burer was born at Reading, Hamilton county, Ohio, November 10, 1877, and in the public schools of the locality he gained his early education, which included the discipline of the high school at Shandon. After his school days he continued to be associated with his father in farm enterprise until he was duly fortified for the initiating of independent operations. Shortly after his marriage he and his wife established their residence on their present farm, which comprises 205 acres and which is familiarly known as the old Dingfelder farm, the original homestead being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Burer and the same being one of the attractive rural houses of Fairfield township. In his vigorous activities along the lines of diversified agriculture and stock growing Mr. Burer is meeting with unequivocal success, and his energy and good judgment are in consonance with his progressive policies. During the progress of the great World war he gave loyal support to all agencies and movements through which the government applied for such civic cooperation, and the same loyalty characterizes his attitude as a public-spirited citizen. His political convictions place him in the ranks of the Democratic party. Mr. Burer is a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic church at Hamilton, while his wife worships with the Bethel church. In the year 1909, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Burer to Miss Catherine Hoffman, daughter of George and Laura (Dingfelder) Hoffman, whose farm home was in the same neighborhood as the old Dingfelder place now occupied, and owned in part, by the subject of this review. Of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman Mrs. Burer was the second in order of birth;

Clara, the eldest, is the widow of Daniel Hayes, and Mary is the wife of Dr. Glenn Rothenbush, of Cincinnati. Mr. and Mrs. Burer have two children, George and Robert, aged respectively eight and two years, in 1919.

William C. Burer, a successful farmer of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, was born in New Baltimore, Colerain township, Hamilton county, Ohio, on March 15, 1885. He was the son of John N. and Christine (Hoffman) Burer, the former of whom was born in Baden, Germany, and the latter in Linwood, Hamilton county, Ohio. John N. Burer came to this country at the age of fifteen and settled in Virginia, living there three years, then moving to Cincinnati, thence to Butler county where he engaged in farming. After his marriage, he and his wife settled in Hamilton county, and about thirty-five years ago came to Butler county, Fairfield township, where he now lives. Twelve children were born to them and grew to maturity: Mary, Mrs. William Hann; Anna; Joseph, married Jessie Duncan; John, married Catherine Hoffman; Rosa, Mrs. Jacob Smith; Bertha, Mrs. John Walther; William, the subject of this review; Helen, Mrs. Wolfgang J. Besler; Genevieve, Mrs. Bert Dinsler; Martha, Mrs. Joseph Jones; Lawrence, deceased; Mark; and Paul, married Julia Wahl. Paul served in the regular army three years and three months, was in France with the United States Infantry, and went over the top seven times. Our subject was educated at Shandon and Stockton, and was married November 6, 1907, to Lucy Beiser, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Druck) Beiser, of Hanover township, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Beiser had eight children: Jacob, married Ida Zilrox; Charles, married Emma Stumpf; Valentine; William, married Grace Hawthorn; Mary, married John Stahlheber; Minnie, married William Simes; Lucy, married William C. Burer; and Edna, married Claude King. After their marriage, our subject and wife lived in Fairfield township, coming to their present home in 1917, a place of one hundred and two acres, part of the Bramble farm. They have five children: Catherine, William, Raymond, Charles, and Mary Rose. Mr. Burer and his family are members of the Catholic church. He took a large part in all war activities, Red cross drives, and movements of National interest.

August W. Burkhardt. The representatives of the agricultural industry in Butler county, classified by their efficiency, industry and progressiveness, measure up in their standards to an equal position with the farmers of any section of the Miami valley. Among them there are leaders, who, in their work and their citizenship, are entitled to more than passing mention, and among these is found August W. Burkhardt, of Hanover township, the owner of what is known as the old Smiley place, of 209 acres. Mr. Burkhardt was born on a farm in Lemon township, Butler county, Ohio, near the town of Monroe, January 8, 1865, being a son of Mathias and Kate (Lutz) Burkhardt. The parents were natives of Germany, but were single when they emigrated to the United States, meeting and being married at Hamilton, Ohio. After their union they removed to a farm in Lemon township, where they resided for several years, then going

to Lesourdsville, where they lived nineteen years. Eventually they located at their present home, in St. Clair township, this county, where they are living in comfortable circumstances, as a reward for their long years of faithful and industrious agricultural work. They are the parents of the following children: August W.; Christian, and Edward, who reside with their parents; Louisa, the wife of George Brotzman, of Hamilton; Catherine, the wife of William Phillips; Ernest and Fred, residing with their parents; Jacob, who married Emeline Manrod, also at home; and Amelia, the wife of William Hentzlemann, of Hamilton county. August W. Burkhardt attended the country schools of Butler county and remained under the parental roof, assisting his father with his agricultural operations, until he was twenty-six years of age, at which time he was united in marriage with Mary Betz, of Reily, Ohio, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Snider) Betz, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. Betz was for some years a Butler county farmer, and in later life removed to Preble county, where he and his wife passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Burkhardt became the parents of four children: Louisa, who married Cecil Keller, a farmer of Oxford township; Edward, associated in farming with his father, who married Elsie Beckmire; Eleanora, the wife of Roy Beckmire, of Hamilton, with one son, Robert; and Elsie, the wife of Henry Brandly, with one son, Earl, living near Kitchell, Ind. After his marriage, Mr. Burkhardt located on a farm in St. Clair township, where he resided for several years, then going to Fairfield township which was his home until 1911. In that year he purchased the farm upon which he now resides, in Hanover township, a tract of 209 acres known as the old Smiley place. He has made numerous valuable improvements on this property, upon which he carries on general farming and stock raising. His progressive methods and capable management of his affairs have given him the well-merited reputation of being one of the skilled farmers of his region, and his high business principles have been ample proof of his integrity. He has taken some interest in politics, and is a Democratic voter, and he and his family are members of St. John's church, at Hamilton.

Walter M. Butler. Among the men who compose the units in the human machinery that operate the great plant of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, one who has seen more than eight years of service with this concern, and who has attained through industry and fidelity a position of responsibility, is Walter M. Butler. Mr. Butler was born at Pittsburg, Pa., January 9, 1873, and is a son of Patrick Michael and Anna (Coyne) Butler. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Butler was James Patrick Butler, an Irish patriot of Galway, whose labors in endeavoring to work for the liberty of his native Erin kept him continually embroiled in political disturbances. Eventually he left Ireland and went to England, but after some years of residence in that country went to Australia and then came to America, where his death occurred. Patrick Michael was born in Ireland, and Anna Butler in Pittsburg, Pa., where they were married, and while in Pittsburg, the father secured employment in the steel mills. In that city Walter M. Butler received a

public school education and grew to manhood, and there also secured his introduction to the business which he has since made his life-work. He moved to Middletown in 1911, accepting a position in the plant of the American Rolling mill, with which big enterprise he has since been connected. He has been faithful, painstaking and punctual in his work, and has gained promotion in recognition of his services. June 12, 1906, Mr. Butler was married to Mrs. Mary (Neyer) Schneider, daughter of Henry and Louisa (Hackman) Neyer, natives of Germany. Mr. Neyer died December 3, 1878, Mrs. Neyer surviving him till May 9, 1919, dying at the age of eighty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Butler reside in their own pleasant home at 1113 E. North street, where wholesouled hospitality prevails, and where they are always pleased to make welcome their numerous friends. They have recently erected a beautiful and modern residence on King avenue in Dell park. They are attendants of the Holy Trinity Parish Catholic church and take a keen and helpful interest in the various movements, civic, educational, social and religious, which affect the welfare of their community. While Mr. Butler is a Republican in political matters, he only has a good citizen's part in public affairs. The great war touched his family, not lightly, for his brother, Arthur Butler, while serving in France, was gassed by the enemy and for two days lay on the field unattended in Belleau Woods, without water or food. He subsequently spent five months in a base hospital, but eventually recovered and received his honorable discharge.

John A. Butterfield, the wide-awake and progressive president of the First National bank, of Okeana, was born near Venice, Hamilton county, Ohio, in 1859, a son of Jeremiah and Sarah (Willey) Butterfield, who had four other children: Mrs. Josephine Brown of Okeana; H. W. of that place; Mrs. Eliza Whipple of Hamilton and Mrs. Jennie Whipple of Venice, Ohio. John A. Butterfield attended the graded and high schools of Venice and an advanced school at Lebanon, following which he adopted the vocation of educator and for several years divided his time between teaching school in the intervals between the farming seasons. Through industry and well-directed effort he became successful as an agriculturist, and at the time of the organization of the First National bank of Okeana he became one of the organizers and a member of the board of directors. Since that time he has advanced to his present position of president, his fellow-officials being George Jeffries of Okeana, vice-president; Edwin Heap, of Franklin county, Ind., second vice-president; Mrs. R. E. Earnshaw, cashier; and W. R. Wagner, assistant-cashier; while G. E. Hanley of Okeana and Fred Walther of Shandon complete the board of directors. R. E. Earnshaw and Charles Wagner, who are deceased, were members of the original board. The First National bank of Okeana is one of the stable and flourishing institutions of Butler county and one that holds and merits in full degree the confidence of the public and of other banking houses. Mr. Butterfield has proved a wise and careful, chief executive, and under his able direction the bank has prospered. As an agriculturist, Mr. Butterfield is still the owner of a handsome and valuable farm of

140 acres located in Morgan township. In politics he is a Democrat. Since early manhood he has been foremost in the public enterprises which have proved advantageous to his home locality, and is considered one of the most influential men in this section of Butler county. In 1897, Mr. Butterfield married Lillian, daughter of Israel and Jane Atherton, of Hamilton county, Ohio, and they are the parents of one daughter, Helen, a young lady of unusual attainments, and a graduate of Miami university, Oxford, class of 1919, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

Robert Lincoln Byrum. Among the far-seeing and alert young business citizens of Middletown, one who has been prominent among the activities which have brought prestige to this thriving city of Butler county is Robert Lincoln Byrum. A resident of Middletown since 1901, he has passed his entire career as an employee of the American Rolling mill, but has found time from his duties in that big plant to devote to other activities. Mr Byrum was born July 19, 1882, at Newport, Ky., a son of John and Lydia (Taral) Byrum, of Greensburg, Ind. About the time of the breaking out of the war between the forces of the North and the South, the Byrum family moved to Kentucky from the Hoosier State, and John Byrum fought as a soldier throughout that struggle. He died in 1912. Mrs. Byrum, who survives her husband, and is a resident of Newport, Ky., was the daughter of Oscar Simonton, a man well respected by all who knew him. He brought his family to Middletown, and being a business man engaged himself in the grocery business. There were six children in the Byrum family: Robert Lincoln; James, a resident of Middletown; Alice, who is the wife of Benjamin Good, of Dayton; Jane, who is the wife of Henry Koerdel, of Newport; Elizabeth, who married Jacob Weber, of Newport; and Flora, the wife of William Nabor, of Cincinnati. Robert L. Byrum attended the public schools of Newport, Ky. When ready to enter upon his career, he chose his trade as an ironworker, and after his decision was once made passed through the various stages of preparation until placed in his present position at the plant as a roller. He has been successful in establishing himself in the good graces and confidence of his employers and his fellow-employees recognize in him a sincerity and integrity that make him a general favorite. He is a wide-awake young man as regards business opportunities, and as a result holds stock in several paying business concerns, with the result that he is able to give his family luxuries that the less alert cannot afford. From boyhood he has been a friend of athletics, baseball being his favorite sport, and at present he is manager of the Middletown Baseball club, a snappy, fast fielding and hard hitting aggregation which has better than held its own among the fast clubs of the Miami valley. Mr. Byrum is a Republican and a member of the Methodist church. As a fraternalist, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masons, holding membership in the Jefferson Blue Lodge, No. 20; Middletown Chapter, No. 87, R. A. M., and the Hamilton Commandery, No. 41, K. T. His support is given to all beneficial movements, whether

P. B. Camahan Jr.

educational, civic or charitable. Mr. Byrum was married April 2, 1902, at Newport, Ky., to Laura, daughter of Oscar and Isabel (Ramsey) Simonton, of that city, and to this union there have been born five children: Ruth, Robert, Gladys, Luella and Jack. Mr. and Mrs. Byrum and their family reside in a handsome home on Linden avenue, which was purchased by Mr. Byrum in 1917.

Charles Cadwallader, who for nineteen years has carried on general farming in Union township but is now practically retired, is well known in different sections of Ohio, not only as a competent farmer but as an educator and minister in the Methodist Protestant church body. Mr. Cadwallader was born in Clark county, Ohio, September 8, 1850, son of Charles and Catherine (Pyle) Cadwallader. The father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Pennsylvania and grew to manhood there, married Jemima Search of the same state. They moved to New York and later he bought land in Clark county, Ohio, on which he passed the rest of his life. His second marriage was to Catherine Pyle, who was born in Virginia, and mother of subject of this sketch. Six children were born to his first union and two to the second, these being Charles and Eliza Catherine. While growing up on his father's farm in Clark county, Charles Cadwallader attended school until he qualified as a teacher, following which he taught school in order to provide for a college education, having in mind a ministerial career. After spending one year at Wittenberg college in Ohio, he went to a similar institution at Adrian, Mich., from which he was graduated in 1877. For the following five years he filled Methodist pastorates and was acceptable wherever the church officials located him, faithfully and conscientiously performing every known duty. In the meanwhile, however, an affection of the ears developed into partial loss of hearing and this caused Mr. Cadwallader to retire from the ministry and interest himself in agricultural pursuits. He then located in Union county, Ohio, where he carried on general farming for sixteen years, coming from there to Butler county in 1900 and renting a farm of 144 acres situated in Union township. He married Rachel Jane Whetsel and they have the following children: Flora Catherine, John M., Charles, deceased; Edward, Paul, Mary, Edith and Anna. While never active in political affairs, Mr. Cadwallader as a man of enlightened understanding, has exercised influence as a citizen, and this influence has always been in support of law, order and morality.

Robert Brown Carnahan, Jr. The announcement of the sudden and untimely death of Robert Brown Carnahan, jr., on June 23, 1918, came as a shock to everyone who knew him, and this shock was accentuated by appreciation of the sterling qualities of the man, not less than by that of his splendid talents and the great worth of his practical achievement. He had been for eighteen years actively associated with the American Rolling Mill company, of Middletown, Ohio. On account of Mr. Carnahan's unbounded generosity, his warmth of manner and disposition, and his democratic ways, he had endeared himself to a host of loyal friends and co-workers, who sorrowfully deplore the unseasonable termination of his noble career as one of the world's productive workers. Mr. Carnahan, who stood

definitely as one of the representative men of Middletown at the time of his demise, was born in the city of Pittsburg, Pa., March 17, 1870, and was a son of Robert Brown Carnahan, sr., and Kate Ann (Ducknall) Carnahan, the latter of whom was reared and educated at Batavia, Ohio. Robert B. Carnahan, sr., became a prominent and distinguished member of the bar of Pennsylvania and was influential in public affairs in the old Keystone state. He was a personal friend of President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton, and under the administration of this martyred president he served as district attorney of the district of western Pennsylvania. He was a man of the highest professional attainments and achieved specially notable reputation as a corporation lawyer. The family name is one that has stood as an exponent of the loftiest patriotism in connection with the annals of American history, and it should be specially recorded in this connection that David Carnahan, great-grandfather of the subject of this memoir, served in the War of the Revolution, as a member of what was known as the American Flying Artillery, with which he took part in many of the important engagements marking the progress of the great conflict which brought the boon of national independence. Robert B. Carnahan, jr., acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of Pittsburg and then entered the University of Pittsburg, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1891. He received from this institution the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, and later the honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon him by his alma mater, in recognition of his valuable inventions in connection with the steel industry. After his graduation in the University of Pittsburg, Mr. Carnahan became associated with the owners of the W. Dewees-Woods plant at McKeesport, Pennsylvania, and at the request of Mr. Wood, sr., he was sent south in connection with gold mining prospects. From 1883 to 1899 he was engaged in the open-hearth department of the McKeesport plant of the same company, and later for a short period he was associated with the Homestead works of the Carnegie Steel company, with which he did special work in connection with the manufacture of open-hearth steel. Mr. Carnahan was the first member of the present working organization of the American Rolling Mill company, by which he was employed early in the year 1900, shortly after the organization of this corporation. The plant which the company then proposed to build was to consist of a thirty-ton open-hearth furnace, a twenty-inch bar mill, four sheet mills, and a galvanizing plant and factory for fabricating sheet-metal products. This was the first time all of these operations had been brought together in one plant where the process was to be continuous from the open-hearth department through to the factory, and it marked a new era in steel-works development. Mr. Carnahan designed and constructed the company's first open-hearth furnace. At that time the open-hearth process of making steel was a comparatively new development, as it had not previously been generally employed in making steel for the production of sheet metal. Consequently there was much to be worked out along both scientific and productive lines, and Mr. Carnahan gave his undivided atten-

tion to the development of this important feature of the business. For several years he lived and slept in the company's main office, in close proximity to the works, and during much of this period he applied himself both day and night. His first position with the American Rolling Mill company was that of superintendent of the open-hearth department, an office which he assumed in August, 1900. In August, 1903, he was advanced to the office of general superintendent, as successor of James B. Strawbridge, who was the first man to hold that position. In October, 1911, Mr. Carnahan was elected vice-president, with full charge of the research division, as well as the company's large patent interests, and he retained this important incumbency until the time of his death. Mr. Carnahan was one of the early believers and advocates of the pure-iron theory, which had been suggested by the Agricultural Department of the United States Government at Washington, and through his many successful activities and achievements he became a metallurgist of national repute. He was an indefatigable worker, and the actual production of commercially pure iron, now generally known as "Armco" iron, and its successful working into sheet metal, was due to his metallurgical knowledge, his indomitable determination to accomplish any task assigned to him, his untiring energy, and his great devotion to his work in the company's interests. It was in recognition of his invention of the Armco iron that he received the honorary collegiate degree of Doctor of Science, as previously noted in this context. He furnished all the data involved in the obtaining of the various patents issued to the American Rolling Mill company, and personally supervised the introduction of his patents in England and France, all his patents being duly recorded in the archives of the United States Patent Office, at Washington. In 1915 Mr. Carnahan received from the Panama-Pacific International exposition the first-class gold medal for his Armco patents. Although he was deeply absorbed in his business affairs, with his exacting executive duties, Mr. Carnahan found time and opportunity to participate in civic activities, as a loyal and public-spirited citizen. His efforts in the days following the 1913 flood, in which he raised a large fund for relief work, will long be remembered by Middletown people. He took also a prominent part in the campaign by which were raised funds to complete the Middletown hospital, and as treasurer and chairman of directors of that institution, he aided greatly in placing it upon a firm foundation. He was active also in church affairs, and he held for several years the office of treasurer of the First Presbyterian church of Middletown, a post which he eventually felt constrained to resign, owing to the manifold other demands upon his time and attention. His political allegiance was given to the Republican party and he affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. The year 1903, after he had located permanently at Middletown, recorded the marriage of Mr. Carnahan to Miss Frances P. Mills, of Hastings-on-the-Hudson, New York, the hymeneal ceremony having been performed in the city of Pittsburg, Pa., and the home of the young couple having been forthwith established at Middletown, where Mrs. Carnahan continues to reside since the

death of her husband. The one child of their union died within a few days after birth. Ideal relations marked the companionship of Mr. and Mrs. Carnahan, and he was never happier than when he was within the portals of his own home, the hospitality of which was most graciously extended by its popular chatelaine. Mrs. Carnahan is a daughter of the late Edmund S. Mills, of the state of New York, and the maiden name of her mother was Euphemia Morton Paton. In connection with his professional and industrial activities Mr. Carnahan held membership in the American Iron & Steel institute, the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the American Society for Testing Materials, and the British Iron & Steel institute, besides which he was a member of the Business Men's club of Cincinnati, and the Queen City and University clubs of Cincinnati and Chamber of Commerce of Middletown, Ohio. Mr. Carnahan will always be remembered for his generous impulses and for the single-minded and enthusiastic manner in which he met every problem, as well as for the kindly and affectionate way in which he greeted everyone. Untiring in his good works, he ever manifested toward all mankind the spirit that was shown by the little boy who, when asked if the child he was carrying were not too heavy for him, replied: "He's not heavy; you see, he's my brother." The indomitable, but generous, kindly, optimistic spirit of Robert B. Carnahan will live forever in the minds and hearts of the Armco men. In conclusion of this memoir it is pleasing to reproduce the following estimate, which bears its own lesson and significance: "Mr. Carnahan was rarely gifted with a capacity for personal relationships, and he never failed to make these a means of happiness and helpfulness to his fellows in business affairs, as well as in his more intimate friendships. The broad charity that 'thinketh no ill,' the passion for service that never failed, the generous spirit that loved fair play, as well as his intuitive knowledge of all classes of men, drew to him many a man who needed a helper, and caused him to be much sought as personal counselor and advisor. In this gracious service he never betrayed the confidence of those who trusted him, but always brought new inspiration and hope for the work of life."

William Barton Carr, who is known chiefly as a mill operator at Hamilton and near-by communities, is also recognized as a citizen who has lent his influence to worthy movements of a nature calculated to develop and strengthen commercial, civic and educational standards. Mr. Carr was born on a farm in Hanover township, Butler county, Ohio, September 15, 1848, a son of John W. and Elizabeth (James) Carr, also natives of this county. The family was founded here by the grandfather of Mr. Carr, a Revolutionary soldier from the state of Vermont, who took up land from the United States Government in Hanover township and there passed the remaining years of his life in agricultural pursuits. John W. Carr was also a life-long farmer, although during the early days his career was frequently interrupted by periods of public service and for some time he acted in the capacity of clerk of Butler county. He died in 1851, when his son was but three years of age. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Mary Ellen, who is de-

ceased; Hannah; Louise, deceased; William Barton; and Wilmina E., of El Paso, Texas. By a second marriage, to Emmeline Sample, John W. Carr had two children: Bessie, a resident of Philadelphia, Pa.; and Fred, who is deceased. William B. Carr was given good educational advantages in his youth, attending the public schools of Cincinnati and Oxford and Audubon university, near Columbus. As a young man, when he entered upon his career, he chose milling as his business, and in connection with his mill for many years conducted a bakery. He built up a large and profitable business, and was not only highly esteemed by the people of his own community, but by those as well of Cambridge City and Milton, Ind., where he also built mills. As a citizen he has been a supporter of all worthy movements, and during the war period his mill co-operated with the Government in conservation of food supplies. Mr. Carr married Clara, daughter of William E. Brown, and they had four children: Bessie, Maynard, Everett and Mary, all deceased. His second marriage was to Jessie, daughter of Doctor Brown, also of Hamilton.

Andrew Jackson Carson, now deceased, was for many years actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in Butler county, where he was widely kown and universally respected. He was born in Lemon township, Butler county, O., May 25, 1828, a son of James and Margaret (Potts) Carson. James Carson and his wife were natives of Pennsylvania, who came at a very early day to Butler county, O., and securing wild land in Lemon township from the government, went to work to clear it off and place it under cultivation. They died two miles south of Monroe, O., many years ago. The children born to them were as follows: John, who was a farmer of Lemon township; Mary Ann and Leah, who were twins; Andrew J., whose name heads this review; and Nancy, who is deceased. Andrew Jackson Carson received such educational training as was offered by the common schools of his day and neighborhood, and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the work of operating it until his marriage, in 1856, following which event he and his wife located one and one-half miles south of Monroe, and lived on that farm for six years, and then spent the succeeding five years on another farm east of Monroe. In 1867, Mr. Carson bought the homestead now occupied by his widow and eldest child, which is north of Monroe in Lemon township. Here he carried on general farming until his death September 5, 1910. Practically all the improvements on the place were made by him, and he added very materially to its value by the work he expended on it and the care he exercised over all the details. February 21, 1856, Mr. Carson was united in marriage with Eliza J. Davis, born February 22, 1836, a daughter of Samuel and Narcisa (Howard) Davis, and granddaughter of Samuel Davis, and great-granddaughter of Samuel and Susan (Boyd) Davis, who died at Monroe, O., having had the following children: Sarah, Nancy, Elizabeth, Maria, Ruth, James, Samuel, Rebecca, Reuben, John and Nathan. Samuel and Narcisa (Howard) Davis had the following children: Eliza J., who is Mrs. Carson; John, who is deceased, served as a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, for three years, died at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. Carson;

Thomas Benton, who is deceased, also served as a Union soldier during the Civil war; James B., who is now living with Mrs. Carson; Martha, who is the widow of Martin Lee, lives at Marysville, O.; William, who is deceased; and George Washington, who died at Muncie, Ind. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Carson who attained to maturity are as follows: John, who is a farmer, has always lived at home; James, who was in a hardware business at Hamilton, O., for ten years, was engaged in several undertakings prior to moving to Dayton, O., where he is now secretary of the Ohio Hardware association, and he married Ella Harkrader and they have one child; and Charlie, who was in the hardware business with his brother at Hamilton, is now with the Niles Tool works of Hamilton, O., married Catherine Braner, and they have one son, Robert. Mrs. Carson is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Monroe, and one of the oldest members of its missionary society as well as being the oldest member of the Red Cross of Monroe. Mr. Carson was a Democrat and was trustee of his township, and held other offices. He was a man who early learned the value of time and the wisdom of economy, and made all of his work count for something, and once he had earned money, took good care to lay some of it away, for he knew it was poor business policy to live up to his income. While acquiring material prosperity, he did not forget to develop those characteristics which make for good citizenship and personal regard, and when he died his community realized that one of its representative men had passed away, and that its loss was heavy.

Capt. John D. Gary, an honored Civil war veteran and now deceased, was born in Jacksonboro, Ohio, August 22, 1841, a son of James D. and Amy (Phares) Gary, the former of Hamilton county, Ohio, and the latter of Wayne township, Butler county. James D. Gary was a merchant all of his life at Jacksonboro and Seven Mile, at which place both he and his wife passed away, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of six children: Eleanor, deceased, who was the wife of Harry Turner; John D.; Joseph H., formerly a merchant and hotel keeper at Seven Mile; Martha J., of Hamilton, widow of Smith Hamrich; Elizabeth, who died at the age of one year; and George W., who is engaged in merchandising at Sheridan, Ind. John D. Gary attended the home schools of Jacksonboro, and was an excellent penman and bookkeeper. In the latter capacity he was employed in his father's store until the outbreak of the Civil war, when, at the age of twenty-one years he enlisted at Hamilton in Company G, 83d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His regiment was organized at Camp Dennison, where it remained during August and September, 1862, and subsequently took part in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Port Gibson, Raymond, Champion Hill, Big Black River, Siege of Vicksburg, second assault of Vicksburg, Jackson, Chateau, Sabine Cross Roads, Cane River and Fort Blakeley. At the last place Captain Gary led his command and was the first to enter the famous stronghold. Early during his service he was made sergeant; in April, 1863, was promoted first lieutenant, and February 18, 1864, received his captain's commission. January 17, 1865, he was transferred to

Company I of the same regiment, with which he served until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged July 5, 1865. Following the close of his military career, Captain Gary located at Seven Mile, where, December 10, 1867, he married Theresa D., daughter of Felix and Caroline (Thomas) Strother, natives respectively of Virginia and New York, and residents of Dayton for some years, where Mr. Strother was engaged as a wagon maker. His death occurred in 1847, while his widow survived him until 1895, their five children being: Lyman T., of Nowata, Okla.; Martha, deceased, who was the wife of the late S. J. B. Bryant; Mary E., the widow of Henry Howe, of Fulda, Minn.; Nancy Bell, the widow of John Thomas, of Seven Mile; and Mrs. Gary. To Captain and Mrs. Gary there were born six children: Florence A., the wife of Walter Gerard, a merchant at West Carrollton, Ohio; James D., connected with an aeroplane factory at Dayton; Lyman T., a machinist at Cincinnati; Fred B., a blacksmith and machinist at Hamilton; Carrie Belle, who died at the age of two years; and Albert B., connected with the National Cash Register company, of Dayton. After his discharge from the war, Captain Gary was connected with merchandising at Seven Mile for a time and then went to Marshall county, Kan., where for three years he acted as bookkeeper for a concern. Returning to Seven Mile, he was variously employed for a time and was then appointed storekeeper at the Soldiers' Home, Sandusky. When the term of his appointment expired, he returned to Seven Mile, where he was a notary public and pension attorney until his death, in January, 1898. He was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his widow also belongs. She resides at Seven Mile, where she is surrounded by numerous sincere friends.

Jerome Cates, is one of the progressive farmers of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, whose success has been due to their own individual efforts. He is the son of William and Elizabeth (Turner) Cates, and was born in Fayette county, Ky., July 13, 1860. After his marriage, William Cates moved to Butler county, Ohio, locating in Ross township, but later the family returned to Kentucky, where the death of both father and mother occurred. The children were Jerome, William, Charles, Joseph and Agnes. Jerome, the oldest child, and subject of this sketch, was brought with other members of the family to Ross township where he attended public schools until the return to Kentucky. He remained in Kentucky until 1872, when he again went to Ross township and settled on a farm where Ellsworth Lacey now lives. In 1887, he married Sallie Cobb, daughter of M. T. and Anna (Sanders) Cobb, who is a native of Jessamine county, Ky. Two children were born to this union: Shirley, Mrs. Llewelyn Pickens has two children, Beulah and Leroy; Robert, who graduated from the Ohio State university in veterinary surgery and served a long period with the Army in France as a veterinarian. For the past eighteen years, Mr. Cates has been in charge of the Solmyer farm, and looks after the cultivation of 225 acres of land. Notwithstanding the large demands made upon him, he finds time to assist and take part in public affairs such as

Red Cross and other war activities. In politics, Mr. Cates is a Republican; in church affiliation, a Presbyterian.

Cavalaris Brothers. Notable among the successful business enterprises of Hamilton, Ohio, is The New York Restaurant, the founders, owners and proprietors of which are three brothers, Louis, John and James Cavalaris, all of whom were born and educated in northern Greece. When John Cavalaris was seventeen years old, James sixteen, and Louis fourteen, they went together to Constantinople, Turkey, but their ambition was to come to America and a year and a half later they accomplished their object. After landing in New York City, they looked about them for a suitable business opening, but not finding it there, they proceeded to Knoxville, Tenn. While New York had not afforded them the business opening they were looking for, the magnitude of the city so impressed them that when, in 1909, they opened their fine eating place at Knoxville, they gave it the title of The New York Restaurant, which they have adopted as a trade name. In 1910, Louis and John Cavalaris left the Knoxville business in charge of James, while they came on to Hamilton, Ohio, where they established the first restaurant at No. 221 Court street, where business was carried on for seven years. Rapid expansion then demanded larger quarters and in 1917 removal was made to No. 225 Court street, where their accommodations are three times larger than at the first location. The New York Restaurant is the leading concern of its kind at Hamilton, and its success is due to the enterprise and honorable business methods of its proprietors. On March 7, 1918, James Cavalaris was called to the colors and entered the medical corps of the army stationed at Camp Greenleaf, Georgia, five months later was sent to France, his work there being assisting surgeons in operations. He returned to the United States April 27, 1919, and was honorably discharged at Camp Sherman on May 16, 1919. When James entered military service, John Cavalaris took charge of the restaurant at Knoxville, which the brothers still operate, and after his discharge he came to Hamilton and joined Louis in the management of the business here. The brothers as a firm belong to the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, and James and John Cavalaris are members of the Fraternal order of Eagles.

John W. Chamberlin. Two and one-half miles east of Middletown, on the Coles road, is situated what is known as the Hetzler farm, but which is now owned and operated by John W. Chamberlin. This Lemon township farmer is one of the progressive and enterprising men of his locality, and during the period that he has resided here has become well and favorably known to the people of the community. He was born on a farm in Turtle Creek township, Warren county, O., October 22, 1867, and is a son of William Chamberlin. His maternal grandfather, George Bergen, was a native of New Jersey who became an early settler of Lemon township, Butler county, where he passed the rest of his life in farming ventures. William Chamberlin grew up in his native state of New Jersey, where he was born March 5, 1825, and was there married February 5, 1851, to Mary J. Bergen, also a native of that

state, born March 21, 1834. They resided there only a short time after their union, however, and then came to Butler county as early settlers of the vicinity of Poast Town. Subsequently they were residents of Warren county, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits in Turtle Creek township until his death, which occurred September 11, 1871, when he was but forty-five years of age. Mr. Chamberlin was a Republican voter and a man who was esteemed in his community as a good citizen. His widow survived him for many years, and passed away in Kansas, when seventy years of age. She was a woman of many estimable qualities and for a number of years was a member of the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, O. She and her husband were the parents of eight children: Elizabeth, born June 9, 1852, who married Landon Day, and died August 8, 1915, at Portland, Ore.; Mary Rebecca, born May 13, 1853, who died March 5, 1856; Hezekiah, born May 10, 1859, who died in Kansas; Mary Ann, the third daughter, who married William Williams, of Kansas; Hannah, born March 14, 1862, who is the widow of Frank Burke and lives in New Mexico; George B., born November 19, 1865, who died July 20, 1866; John W., of this notice; and Nannie, born December 22, 1869, the wife of George E. Kingen, of Mount Washington, Kans. John W. Chamberlin was but three years of age when his father died, and as a result his education was somewhat prescribed, although the mother not only managed to keep her little brood together, but also to care for her own parents until their deaths. For three and one-half years he lived near Spring Hill, in Johnson county, Kans., and subsequently made his home with his grandmother, but eventually removed to Franklin, O. In the meantime he was acquiring such education as was possible in the home schools, and growing to young manhood, and December 10, 1891, was married near Franklin to Sarah D. Chamberlin, daughter of Daniel and Amanda (DuBois) Chamberlin, born near Carlisle, O., whose parents were both natives of New Jersey. During the active portion of his career Daniel Chamberlin was a farmer, but he and his wife have now retired and are living in comfort at Franklin, where they have a modern home. Following their marriage, John W. Chamberlin and his wife resided on a farm east of Franklin, but later moved to another property south of that city, where they made their home for six years. They next became residents of Blue Ball, where they lived for two years, and for the following seven years had the old Cook place. In 1907 Mr. Chamberlin bought the Hetzler place on the Coles road, two and one-half miles east of Middletown, a tract of fifty-seven acres, on which he has since made numerous valuable and attractive improvements. He uses modern methods and highly improved machinery in his work, and is accounted one of the skilled agriculturists of his community whose work is attended by satisfying results in the way of emoluments. He is a general farmer, and in addition does some dairying, and his business reputation is of the best. Mr. Chamberlin votes the Republican ticket, but is not active in political affairs and has not chosen to allow his name to be used

as a candidate for public office in the past. He and Mrs. Chamberlin are members of the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, and both are well and favorably known in both Butler and Warren counties, where they have many warm friends. They are the parents of two daughters: Dorothy and Florence L., the former of whom was married January 15, 1918, to Fred W. Helsinger, jr., a farmer west of Middletown.

Joseph J. Clair, who holds a position as heater in the American Rolling Mills company, at Middletown, Butler county, has been a resident of this city only a few years. Mr. Clair was born in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, May 8, 1889, and is a son of Henry and Marie (Devanney) Clair, who still reside in that city, as do also the other three children—Catherine, Rose and Anna, the last mentioned being the wife of Henry Luebke. Joseph J. Clair acquired his early education in the parochial school of St. Edward's Catholic church in his native city, and thereafter he served an apprenticeship to the printer's trade, in which he became a skilled workman. He followed his trade in Cincinnati for a time, when he came to Middletown, to accept a position with the Naegle-Auer Printing company, with which he continued for some time. In 1915, he abandoned the work of the printer's trade to accept the position, of which he has since continued the incumbent, as an employee of the American Rolling Mills company. In politics he maintains an independent attitude, and he and his wife are communicants of St. John's Catholic church. On June 3, 1913, he married Leona Agatha Fabing, who was born in Middletown, July 3, 1889, and who is a daughter of William and Catherine (Hart) Fabing, well-known citizens of Middletown, where the father is a representative business man, with a well equipped establishment on Main street. Mr. and Mrs. Clair have two sons—John W. and William, and the family home is at 921 Yankee road.

Curtis A. Clark, D. V. M., who is engaged in the successful practice of veterinary surgery at College Corner, has been a practitioner of this calling since 1903, and during this time has built up a reputation as one of the leaders in his locality in this field of endeavor. He is a native son of Butler county, having been born at College Corner, April 26, 1874, his parents being G. W. and Cynthia (Welliver) Clark, who still reside here. G. W. Clark, who for many years was a blacksmith at College Corner, is now living in comfortable retirement at the age of eighty years, and is highly respected in the community as is also his worthy and estimable wife, who is a member of the old-settled and honored family of Welliver, pioneers of Butler county. There were five children in the family: Albert, Myrtie, an infant, Charles and Curtis A., all of whom are deceased with the exception of Doctor Clark. Curtis A. Clark was educated in the graded and high schools at College Corner, and when he completed his studies took up the trade of barber, which he followed as a journeyman and proprietor for fifteen years. As a boy and youth he had been interested in horses and had learned much of their diseases while passing spare time around his father's blacksmith shop, and eventually decided to take

up the work of a veterinarian. However, he knew that the advancements in this line of endeavor had been great since his youth, and in order to prepare himself for his career he took a course in the Indiana Veterinary college, at Indianapolis, from which he was duly graduated in 1903. At that time he returned to College Corner and established himself in practice, and since then has built up a large and lucrative professional business, not alone in the immediate community of his home, but in the surrounding countryside and in the counties adjacent. He is a great friend of dumb animals, understands them thoroughly, and has had extraordinary success in treating their ills. He is a humane man, full of sympathy for his patients, and this, perhaps, has been one of the chief reasons for his success. In the various communities to which he has traveled, Doctor Clark has made many friendships, while in his home locality he is known as a good and public-spirited citizen. He was married in 1896 to Ada B., daughter of Alexander and Ada Kennedy, of Cottage Grove, Ohio, the father a farmer and plasterer. To this union there have come two children: Caryl, born in 1901, and a graduate of high school; and Edna, born in 1907, attending the graded school.

James Marshall Clark. Among the employees of the American Rolling Mill, at Middletown, who can boast of the possession of a fifteen-year pin, designating fifteen years of faithful and continuous service, is James Marshall Clark, who occupies the position of heater. Mr. Clark, who has passed his entire career in this line of work, was born in Ligonier valley, Pa., January 28, 1871, a son of Joseph P. and Jane Agnes (Reed) Clark. The American history of the Reed family, of which Mr. Clark's mother is a member, began with the early settlement of Pennsylvania when in 1753 people bearing the name located in the Cumberland valley. Since that time the family has produced a distinguished line of people, among them noted physicians, lawyers and clergymen. Mrs. Jane Agnes (Reed) Clark was born September 27, 1845, at Ligonier, Pa., a daughter of Marshall and Sarah (McKelvey) Reed. Her father, the youngest of a family of twelve children, was born on the original Reed homestead, May 15, 1819, and married Sarah McKelvey, and their descendants still retain the farm of their ancestors. There were seven children born to their union: Jane Agnes, Asenath, Rebecca A., James McKelvey, Sarah Mary, Robert Buchanan and Lavinia Elizabeth, of whom three died in childhood. June 17, 1863, Marshall Reed enlisted in CompanyB, 1st Batallion, Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. In his declining years he applied for a pension, but a voucher from the United States Government came a few hours late for his signature, he having died March 20, 1892. His wife, Sarah, died September 6, 1875. Jane Agnes, the oldest of their children, married Joseph P. Clark, who was born August 16, 1841. He enlisted as a soldier in the Civil war September 12, 1861, and served until the close of the war, being credited with having participated in twenty-five battles, and receiving his honorable discharge July 1, 1865. He and his wife were the parents of nine children: Sarah Alice, Matilda

J., James Marshall, Asenath A., Frank M., McKinley Patterson, Charles Vincent, Addie Reed and Irvin Ross. James Marshall Clark received a public school education and about the year 1904 entered the Zanesville plant of the American Rolling Mill company. In 1911 he came to Middletown, where he has since been employed in the capacity of a heater, and is considered one of the company's reliable, skilled and trustworthy workmen. He is a liberal Republican in politics, and he and his family are members of the Methodist church and reside in their own pretty home on Grand avenue. Mr. Clark was married at Apollo, Pa., November 25, 1897, to Miss Lottie Snyder, who was born January 29, 1878, and they have had six children: an infant, born May 14, 1899, who died two days later; and Mildred, Violet, Freda, Mary and Jimmie, who reside with their parents.

William E. Clark. After spending more than four decades in the hard and unceasing work of the agriculturist and accumulating a competence sufficient to relinquish active labor, the average man would feel satisfied to retire to a life of comfort and ease, untroubled by business cares. Such has not, however, been the nature of William E. Clark, of Oxford. For more than forty years this highly respected citizen was a tiller of the soil, after which he engaged in business of another character for several years, and today, when past the Psalmist's three-score-and-ten, he still has large and important interests to demand the constant use of his active body and fertile brain. Mr. Clark was born on a farm in Morgan township, Butler county, Ohio, March 6, 1849, a son of Salem and Susan (Ragdale) Clark, also natives of that county, the former of Reily township and the latter of Morgan township. After their marriage, the parents located in the former township, where the mother died, the father removing to Oxford two years prior to his own death. Both were laid to rest at Scipio. They were the parents of four children: Mary Louise, who married Jesse Beard; Alfred, who is deceased; William E., of this review; and Henry W., a Hamilton real estate dealer with an office in the Rentschler building. William E. Clark secured his education in the country schools, after leaving which he worked on the home farm for a time and then engaged in farming on his own account. For more than forty-three years he was connected with matters of an agricultural character and through his industrious, painstaking and well-directed work accumulated a competency and established himself in a position where he was known as a thoroughly capable, substantial and result-producing agriculturist. Leaving the farm at the end of that long period, he took up his residence at Hamilton, where his well-known business ability placed him at the head of the firm of Clark Brothers, carriage and harness dealers, and this business he followed until 1905, when he came to Oxford and bought his present home, a handsome, attractive and comfortable residence at No. 112 Campus avenue, which he remodeled. From the time of his arrival to the present he has engaged successfully and extensively in the buying and selling of farms, and at this time has holdings both locally and in the State of Wisconsin. As a citizen he

has always been worthily and honorably interested in civic affairs, and the high respect and confidence in which he is universally held has led to his election as president of the village council of Oxford, a position in which he has worked energetically for the betterment of his community. He is a staunch Democrat in politics. Mr. Clark was married January 2, 1872, to Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Fye) Beard, of Reily township, who had two other children: William A., of Dublin, Ind.; and George deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Clark there have been born five children: John E. and Jessie H., both deceased; Grace, the wife of W. B. Cullen, of Dayton, who owns a foundry at Miamisburg; and Clifford and Perley, deceased.

Daniel L. Clear, of Fairfield township, Butler county, is one of the progressive farmers of this county and is proving successful as an agriculturist and breeder and grower of live stock, to which department of his farm enterprise he gives special attention, the major part of the forage crops on his farm being used for the feeding of his cattle and hogs. He rents and carries on operations on what is known as the Burns farm, and he is one of the substantial and popular citizens of his native county. Mr. Clear was born near Jones station, in Fairfield township, Butler county, December 11, 1875. In Ireland were born his parents, James and Elizabeth (Kelly) Clear, the latter of whom was a girl of eleven years at the time of her parents' immigration to America. James Clear was reared and educated in the Emerald Isle and was an ambitious youth of eighteen years when he came to the United States, the sailing vessel on which he crossed the Atlantic ocean being three months upon the ocean. Upon his arrival in Butler county, Ohio, James Clear first found employment in shoveling corn at the old Dodsworth distillery, a flourishing industrial institution of the county at that time, and later he served for a short time as a driver of mules along the old-time canal in this section of the state. For a number of years he was employed at farm work in Butler county, and after his marriage he rented the old Wormester farm, but a year later he removed to the Taylor farm. The succeeding year found him operating a farm of forty acres in Hamilton county, and he then returned to Butler county and rented the Jones farm at Jones station, where he continued his farming enterprise for twenty-six years, within which time his son Daniel L., of this review, was there born. At the expiration of this time Mr. Clear purchased a farm of eighty acres in Union township, and there both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, secure in the confidence and esteem of all who knew them, and both earnest communicants of the Catholic church. Of their eight children seven are living—Thomas, John, Daniel L., Martin, Mary, Margaret and Elizabeth. Daniel L. Clear has continuously resided in Butler county from the time of his birth, and here he has effectively upheld the honors of the family name, both as a loyal citizen and as a successful farmer. He acquired his early education in the public schools of Fairfield township and thereafter assisted his father in the work of the home farm until he assumed full control, by the purchase of the

homestead, in Union township. There he remained until 1915, when he rented and removed to the Burns farm, upon which he has since continued as an agriculturist and stock raiser. Mr. Clear has always taken lively interest in community affairs and has been influential in the local councils of the Democratic party. He represented Union township as a member of the Democratic central committee of Butler county, and for seven years served as trustee of that township. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and he and his wife are active communicants of the Catholic church at Hamilton. June 7, 1914, he was married to Catherine Clark, whose widowed mother, Mrs. Ellen Clark, is a well known resident of Butler county. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Clear had been a successful and popular teacher in the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Clear have two children: Ellen Elizabeth and Mary Catherine.

Thomas Clear is known as one of the successful and popular representative farmers of Fairfield township. He is the owner of a well improved farm of 115 acres, where he has been successfully carrying forward operations as an agriculturist and stock grower since 1914, prior to which year he had here farmed on rented land. He is of pioneer stock in Butler county and was here born, in Fairfield township, December 11, 1861, a son of James and Elizabeth (Kelly) Clear, both of whom were born on the fair old Emerald Island, the father having been a youth of eighteen years when he came to America, and the mother having accompanied her parents to this country when she was a girl of eleven years. Animated by the spirited buoyancy and ambition characteristic of the people of his native land, James Clear crossed the Atlantic on one of the old-time sailing vessels, the voyage having been of three months' duration. He soon made his way to Butler county, Ohio, and here his first employment was that of shoveling corn at the old Dodsworth distillery, which represented one of the pioneer industrial enterprises of the county. Later he was employed as driver of mules on the old canal towpath, which he followed but a short time. He then found employment at farm work, in Fairfield township, and his compensation at the time averaged $11 a month, while the pioneer conditions made the work exceedingly hard. After his marriage Mr. Clear rented the old Wormester farm, but about a year later removed to the old Taylor farm, and remained here for one year. He next established himself on a farm of forty acres in Hamilton county, but a year later he returned to Butler county and rented the Jones farm at Jones station. There he continued operations twenty-six years, at the expiration of which he purchased eighty acres in Union township, and operated it during the remainder of his life and here both he and his wife died. Of their eight children seven are living: Thomas, John, Daniel, Martin, Mary, Margaret and Elizabeth. The parents were folk of sterling character and possessed of those genial and generous attributes that foster enduring friendships. Both were earnest communicants of the Catholic church, in whose faith they carefully reared their children. Thomas Clear gained the major part of his early education in the old schoolhouse at Jones station, and after leaving

school he assisted his father in farming operations until his marriage. He and his young wife then established themselves on a small farm which he rented, but two years later they removed to a larger farm, of 150 acres, upon which he conducted operations five years. For nineteen years thereafter Mr. Clear rented the Patrick Burns farm, and at the expiration of this period he purchased and located upon his present farm, which he is maintatining at a high standard of productivity and which has received numerous and substantial improvements at his hands. His political views proclaim him as an adherent of the Democratic party, and he has been called upon to serve in various local offices of trust, having held the position of township trustee two years, and for seven years was the incumbent of the office of justice of the peace, and he served for some time as road superintendent in his township. He is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and he and his family are communicants of the Catholic church. On June 8, 1880, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Clear to Mary Jacquermin, daughter of John Jacquermin, and of the six children of this union three are living—James, John and Paul. James married Miss Uste and they have two children. John married Miss Blanche Fry and they have one child, Elsie. Paul wedded Miss Lillian Arlinghouse and they have one son, Thomas, named in honor of his paternal grandfather.

Doc Iris Cochran, M. D.—The first personal name of Doctor Cochran must have been given with parental prevision of the professional activities that were eventually to engage his attention, and today he has secure vantage-place as one of the representative physicians and surgeons of his native county, where he is established in successful general practice at Millville. In his popularity and professional success he has effectually set at naught any application of the scriptural statement that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country", and he further has the prestige of being a representative of one of the old and honored families of Butler county. He was born on his father's farm in Hanover township, this county, February 12, 1878, and is a son of Taylor and Hannah (Gillespie) Cochran. Taylor Cochran was a brother of J. S. Cochran, of Ross township, and in the review of the career of the latter, on other pages of this work, is given due record concerning the family history while this publication likewise offers elsewhere detailed record concerning the Gillespie family of which the mother of Doctor Cochran was a representative. Taylor Cochran long held rank among the successful exponents of agricultural industry in Butler county, where he developed one of the fine farms of Hanover township. Of his two children the subject of this review is the younger, and the elder is Albertus, who now maintains his residence at Hamilton, Butler county. To the public schools of his native county Doctor Cochran is indebted for his early educational discipline, which was conjoined with that involved in the work of the home farm. He continued his studies until he had completed the curriculum of the high school at Hamilton, and in the meanwhile he had formulated definite plans for his future career. In consonance with these plans and ambitions he entered the medical

department of the University of Ohio, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1903 and with the degree of M. D. Shortly after thus receiving his degree he established himself in practice at Millville, and here his recognized professional ability, his close and faithful application and his personal popularity have conspired to the developing for him of a large and representative general practice. He is identified with the Butler County Medical society and the Ohio State Medical society, and at the time of this writing he is a valued member of the board of health of Butler county. During the period of the nation's participation in the World war Dr. Cochran served as a member of the Medical Reserve Corps, besides having been chairman of the committee that had in charge the various campaigns for war support—Victory Loans, War-Savings Stamps, etc.—in his county, the while his wife took an active and prominent part in Red Cross activities in the county. He is a Republican in his political proclivities, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and both he and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church in their home village, as are they also popular factors in the representative social life of the community. The year 1904 recorded the marriage of Doctor Cochran to Miss Sadie Elizabeth Henry, a daughter of Halsey and Elizabeth Henry, well-known citizens of Riley township, Butler county. Doctor and Mrs. Cochran have three children: Hugh W., Faye Elizabeth and John W.

J. S. Cochran is one of the wide awake and energetic agriculturists of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio. Not only has he labored industriously and conscientiously to advance his own material interests, but he has always shown a kindly feeling for his neighbors. The Cochran family of Butler county is one of the oldest and most respected of the long-time residents of that section and has played an important part in furthering the agricultural importance of the community. This family descended from William and Rebecca (Morrow) Cochran, who came from Adams county, Pa., in 1814, with their three small children, locating first in Warren county, Ohio, near the Little Miami river, where they joined Jeremiah Morrow, who had established himself some years previously. Later William Cochran and family came to Millville, where the parents passed the remainder of their days. James W. Cochran, the father of J. S. Cochran, was the son of William and Rebecca (Morrow) Cochran. He married Mary June Hill, daughter of James Hill, who came to Millville about 1811, and had seven children, J. S. being the youngest son. Rebecca Morrow was the daughter of John and Mary (Lockhart) Morrow, who also lived in Adams county, Pa. They were the parents of six children, of whom one, Jeremiah, became famous as governor of Ohio. The Cochran family on both sides was known for the rugged honesty of its members and it is gratifying to know that the later descendants have perpetuated the admirable distinction attained. J. S. Cochran married Mary L. Minton, daughter of Harvey and Florence (Parker) Minton. Three children have been born to them—Mary V.; Elizabeth G.; and Rebecca Morrow. He is a Presbyterian in religion and a

Republican in politics. As an agriculturist he has always kept apace with the times and the success which he has had has been well merited.

William Cochran, was born in Ross township, Butler county, November 19, 1835, a son of James and Hannah (Wilson) Cochran; the former of whom came to Butler county from Pennsylvania. His brother, William Cochran, after whom was named the subject of this review was one of the early judges of Butler county and was known to the district as a man of probity and acumen. William Cochran, subject of sketch, married April 21, 1864, Miss Susan Whipple, a daughter of James and Susan (Timmerman) Whipple. After their marriage the young couple resided for a time on the old Whipple farm and then built the present homestead which was designed by the wife. Five children were born to them: Maud, Martha, Guereldelene, Bertha and Charles. Maud was married to John Behl and now lives in Oxford township, having three children, Hugh, Margery and Dorothy; Martha married William Beard, and also lives in Oxford township and has two children, Lorena and Donald; Guereldelene married James Beard and lives in Hamilton, Ohio, and has three children, Mark, Susan and Gladys; Bertha, who married Charles Snively, lives in Oxford, and has two children, Eleanor and Ruth; Charles married Hazel Minton, lives with his mother on the home farm, and has one son, James William, born February 1, 1919. Mention may here fittingly be made of the third generation: Margery, was married to Arthur Myers, lives in Oxford township and has two children, Pearl and Arthur; Hugh Behl served his country as an assistant-surgeon in the Navy. Lorena Beard was married to Troy Junk and has two children, Janet and William. Donald Beard married Virginia Gillespie; Mark Beard, son of Guereldelene (Cochran) Beard, married Rebecca Dick, and lives in Morgan township.

George D. C. Coddington. Inventive genius is a divine gift, and its exercise, along useful and humanitarian lines, has done much to add to the comfort and happiness of the world. In connection with utilitarian inventions, the name of Coddington is one which has long been prominent. The late George W. Coddington, whose name and memory preserved in the firm of George W. Coddington heirs, at West Middletown, was a man of rare genius, and his son, George D. C. Coddington, is one whose natural talents and practical application of expert knowledge have placed him beyond ordinary characterization, in several instances having practically revolutionized mechanical methods. Mr. Coddington was born at Middletown, Ohio, February 13, 1869, a son of George W. and Ruth J. (Doty) Coddington, and is a direct descendant of Daniel Doty, the first white settler of Butler county. His paternal grandfather, Stephen Coddington, came from Maryland down the Ohio river and settled at what is now Cincinnati, then Fort Washington, where he followed the trade of mason and also did some freighting down the Ohio river. His son, George W. Coddington, was born at Cincinnati, and as a young man went to Missouri, but about the close of the Civil war came to Middletown and settled on Clinton

street. During his residence in Missouri his eyesight had become impaired, but upon his recovery he applied himself to the trade of mason, and later took up photography. He was likewise skilled in the art of violin making, and numerous fine instruments came from his little shop, several of which are still in the family possession. He early displayed inventive genius, his first practical article of value being a patent truck for holding logs in a sawmill. Following this came a steam turbine, which also attracted favorable attention. His principal invention, however, was a waxed string for fruit jars and the machinery to manufacture same, and out of this he made a large fortune, following it with a glass fruit jar which bears his name. Among his other accomplishments, Mr. Coddington was a fancy skater of note and retained his skill in this direction until he had passed his seventieth year. He married Ruth J. Doty, who was born and reared southeast of Middletown, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Vail) Doty, the former of whom was the first proprietor of Middletown and laid out the streets of that city. Daniel Doty, the grandfather of Mrs. Coddington, was the first settler of Butler county, where he arrived in 1796. He commenced his improvements in a dense forest, and built his primitive log cabin on the banks of the Big Miami, but when it was finished had to make his household effects of every kind with which to furnish it. This cabin, which was long a landmark of the community, had wooden pegs for nails and a clapboard roof. In later life, this pioneer had a more comfortable and commodious home, and was one of the respected and influential men of his locality. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom the ninth in order of birth was Joseph, who was born at Middletown, January 8, 1808. He married Mary Vail, daughter of Samuel Vail, who was a brother of Stephen Vail, the first proprietor of Middletown. In the family of George W. Coddington, there were five children, of whom two survive: George D. C.; and Pearl, the wife of William Rosscopf, of Imperial valley, Calif. George D. C. Coddington was educated in the public schools of Middletown, and in his youth showed flashes of genius. As he grew to maturity his talents developed and he was soon the bearer of a reputation which was not confined to his immediate home community. As a youth he assisted his father in perfecting the machinery for the manufacture of the standard wax strings for sealing fruit cans, jars, etc., and the capacity of this machine is now 300,000 daily. Later he turned his attention to the invention of a submarine vessel, for which he made drawings, specifications and a working model. He was then a lad of but twenty years, but had faith in his invention, which he brought before government officials, only to be treated with the indifference that is given a crank or visionary. Returning from the east, where he had met with this setback, he decided that his machine needed further improvements. Later these ideas were incorporated in the models of the submarines built by J. P. Holland, the "Peacemaker" and the "Holland." Next, Mr. Coddington produced a wax-coated paper ring, to take the place of a rubber ring on Mason fruit jars, and this he subsequently sold to Ball Brothers,

glass manufacturers, for the sum of $20,000. Another utilitarian article invented by him is the "helping hand," so named by his son, Earl, a device for lifting hot pans or kettles from the stove without injury to the hand. Mr. Coddington also invented the rocker washing machine and a sealing wax machine for sealing fruit cans. This latter moulded the wax cakes, weighed them and threw out the light-weights, removed the cakes from the mold and automatically put the cakes in cartons, in fact doing everything except put them in a shipping case, at the rate of 10,000 per day. This patent he sold at a good figure. Mr. Coddington is also a talented artist in oil colors, is an expert photographer and a skilled wood carver. He is very fond of travel and has visited many of the large cities of interest in this and other countries, where he has indulged his love of art in some of the famous galleries and his penchant for literature in noted libraries. He is a Democrat, but has not cared for public life, his greatest pleasure being found in his beautiful home at West Middletown, which he built several years ago on coming to this community from Middletown. October 13, 1889, Mr. Coddington married Mary F. B., daughter of John and Mary (Saybaugh) Link, and to this union there have been born three children: Myrtle R. A., Earl L. and Inez E. Myrtle, who is living at Los Angeles, Calif., at the home of her aged grandmother, was for five years a teacher at Middletown, two years at Fairfield and one year at Dayton. She is at present engaged in the study of Osteopathy. Earl L., of Middletown, is an expert automobilist and graduate electrician, and the proprietor of the East End Garage. He is known as the third inventive genius in the Coddington family, his time and mind being applied to the invention of a new type of engine, automatic gear shifting and engine starter, all for the improvement of automobiles; in conjunction with these are several other inventions underway. He is also a talented musician and artist. He married Theresa Ankill, of Middletown. Inez E. was a nurse in the Deaconess hospital, Cincinnati, but contemplates taking up the study of Osteopathy as a profession. She has inherited her father's artistic tastes, and has received commendation and honors upon her work in oils. With her parents, she belongs to the Baptist church, while Myrtle belongs to the Presbyterian faith and Earl L. and wife to the United Brethren denomination.

Robert K. Coddington. It is not within the capability of every man to be successful both as an employee and an employer. Certain characteristics are necessary in order that a man may faithfully represent capital and labor. He must be fair in his judgments, upright in his actions, and open to argument, and cautious in making decisions until all sides of every question have been presented. It is the possession of these qualities that has made Robert K. Coddington successful in the discharge of his duties in the traffic department of the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown. He is a native of Amanda, Ohio, born December 12, 1868, a son of James and Nancy (Edwards) Coddington, and a descendant of the family to which belonged William Coddington, the founder of the colony of Rhode Island. His paternal grandfather was Robert

Coddington, who married a Miss Sinkey, and his maternal grandfather was Samuel Edwards, who came from Maryland to Cincinnati, Ohio, at an early date in the latter city's history. There were seven children in the family of Mr. Coddington's parents: Robert K., Samuel, Charles, Rowena, Clinton, William and Charles, of whom William is deceased. The father passed away in 1888, and the mother survives as a resident of Amanda. Robert K. Coddington attended the public schools of his native place, and after his graduation from the high school began to teach in the country schools. From that occupation he went to become agent of the C. H. & D. railroad, at West Middletown, but resigned to accept one with the Decatur Buggy company. From that concern he transferred his services to the American Tobacco company, and subsequently joined the American Rolling Mill, at Middletown, Ohio. Mr. Coddington is liberal in his political views, and his religious faith is that of the Methodist church. December 25, 1894, he married Miss Jennie Gillespie, who is still a woman of striking beauty and of lovely personality. She was born at Franklin, Ohio, October 22, 1869, a daughter of the late Capt. J. W. A. and Henrietta (Wilkinson) Gillespie. Captain Gillespie was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, February 19, 1837, a son of James and Catherine Gillespie, and was married at Franklin to Henrietta Wilkinson, who was born April 26, 1842, at Franklin, daughter of Richard and Mary Jane Wilkinson. He was in the Union service from April 19, 1861, to January 1, 1865, served as storekeeper for the United States Government for six months in 1868, and was sergeant-at-arms of the G. A. R. Post at Columbus, Ohio, for a number of years. His death occurred at Middletown. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Edwin P., Frank, Jennie T., William F. and Robert Y. An elder brother of Captain Gillespie, William C. B. Gillespie, was captain and later major of the 41st Illinois Volunteers, and was subsequently on staff duty with Generals Pugh and Custer. George, another brother, fought with the 9th Ohio Cavalry. Mr. and Mrs. Coddington have reared a most interesting family of children. Paul Edward fought as a member of the United States Marines for two years and four months and while in France, June 8, 1918, was wounded by a machine-gun bullet in the head and right arm, while in the engagement of Belleau Wood. His cousin, Frohman Gillespie and Uncle Charles Coddington, also were in the U. S. service. Thelma, the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Coddington, is a graduate of the Middletown High school, and volunteered as a Red Cross nurse. Marian Loeta, the younger daughter, is also a graduate of Middletown High school and also attended Monmouth college. She is splendidly gifted with dramatic talent, and while she has never trod the professional boards her services are constantly in demand in amateur entertainments and home talent theatricals. She is self-supporting, being employed in the office of the American Rolling Mill company. Kyle, the younger son and youngest child, is a member of the sophomore class at the Middletown High school.

Robert Coman Cogswell has been identified with lumber interests since the commencement of his career in business affairs and

for some years has been a resident of Hamilton, where he is a member of the firm and secretary of the Vaughn Building company. Mr. Cogswell was born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, April 28, 1887, a son of C. E. and Zarina E. (Coman) Cogswell. The Cogswell family originated in England, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1635, the founder here being Sir John Cogswell who secured a grant of land in Massachusetts. Members of this family were prominent in the affairs of the nation in the early days, both political and military, and those bearing the name have been honorable men and women in the various professions and vocations of life. G. E. Cogswell was born in Pennsylvania, but subsequently went to LeRoy, N. Y., where he was married, and later moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Robert C.; George O., president and manager of the Cogswell Building company of Springfield, Ohio; and E. R., district manager for the Bell Telephone company, of Springfield, Ill. Robert C. Cogswell attended the graded school at Waukegan, Ill., and the high school at Champaign, that state, and then entered the University of Illinois, from which he was duly graduated. Following his graduation he went to Lafayette, Ill., where he became assistant manager for the Henry Taylor Lumber company, and when he resigned from that firm it was to come to Hamilton, here he became manager of the yard of the West Side Lumber company. Subsequently he was with the Cullen-Vaughn company, constructors, and finally formed a partnership with Mr. Vaughn of that concern, and became secretary of the Vaughn Building company, which post he still retains. This concern has been one of the most successful of its kind at Hamilton and has engaged in a number of large construction works, prominent among which is the erection of the mammoth Ford plant at Hamilton. April 8, 1916, Mr. Cogswell was united in marriage with Louise, daughter of W. M. Dingfelder, of Hamilton, and to this union there has come one son: Robert Coman, jr., born March 22, 1917. The pleasant family home is situated at No. 110 Elvin avenue.

Elmer J. Combs. During the past sixteen years one of the industrious and reliable citizens of Middletown has been Elmer J. Combs, who is successfully engaged in business as a carpenter contractor. He was born at Washington Court House, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Nichols) Combs. The Combs family of this branch was founded in America by the great-grandfather of Mr. Combs, who emigrated from Scotland to the colony of Virginia, and in 1725 moved to the frontier of Kentucky. There, in 1779, was born the grandfather of Elmer J. Combs, a fact which was discovered by the latter's son, Carl E., who while on a visit to Union Hall, Ky., found an old Family Bible, in which was entered the date of his great-grandfather's birth. The maternal grandparents of Elmer J. Combs came from Maryland and settled near Frankfort, Ross county, Ohio, at an early day. His father died in 1882, and his mother June 2, 1918, aged eighty-four years. Elmer J. Combs received a public school education and as a youth applied himself to learning the carpenter's trade. He was a resident of Washington

Court House until 1903, in which year he came to Middletown, and here is now the owner of a pretty, modern home on Baltimore street. For some years he was employed by the Middletown Lumber company and Caldwell & Iseminger, but eventually embarked in business on his own account as a carpenter contractor, and since that time has met with excellent success. He is a skilled and reliable workman, able in his calling and trustworthy in living up to the letter of his contracts, and has won and held the confidence of his associates and the public at large. January 30, 1887, Mr. Combs married at Washington Court House, Rose Etta, daughter of John and Cynthia Ellen (Brown) Shierer, and granddaughter of Isaiah and Elizabeth Shierer, who came from Virginia after the close of the Civil war and in 1877 settled in Preble county, Ohio. Two of Mrs. Combs' uncles were killed while fighting as soldiers during the Civil war. In the family of John and Cynthia E. Shierer there were nine children: Willie; Cora Jane, now Mrs. Frank Wade, of Pennsylvania; Ida May, the widow of Robert Pierce, of Oxford, Ohio; Mary Sylvia, now Mrs. C. DuVal, of Middletown; Rose Etta, the wife of Elmer J. Combs; Myrtle Elizabeth, the wife of R. Stewart, of Middletown; Eunice, the wife of Daniel Doty, of Franklin; Bessie, the wife of Henry Johnson, of Middletown; and Charles, of this city. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Combs: Carl Edward, of whom more later; Earl, deceased; Harry Cleveland; Francis Clyde, who married Margaret Root; Charles; Elizabeth Ellen, deceased; Leslie, who married Grace Sharritt; Nora Pauline, deceased; and Philip LeRoy, who died in infancy. Carl Edward Combs was educated in the public schools of Frankfort, Ohio, and came to Middletown from Washington Court House with his parents in 1903. Here he successfully passed the U. S. Civil Service examination, and for the past several years has been employed as a clerk at the Middletown postoffice. He is a young man of studious habits and patriotic impulses, and is very popular in his home city. He was married September 1, 1906, to Lillian, daughter of David and Anna (Esselman) Rodgers, of Clermont county, Ohio, and they have three children: Veatrice, Ruth and Elmer. Mr. Combs is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Charles Combs enlisted in the United States Marines, May 7, 1917, and was sent to Paris Island, S. C., where he was subsequently attached to the 44th U. S. Marine Corps, and sent to Santo Domingo as a gunner. He was granted a furlough and visited his parents' home at Middletown, and shortly after his return to Santo Domingo was stricken with Spanish influenza and died February 24, 1919. The following token of kindly consideration from one associated with him in his country's service, shows the high esteem in which this brave and valiant young soldier was held by those who knew him: "Marine Barracks, Hato Mayor, D. R., February 25, 1919. My Dear Mr. Combs: I regret exceedingly to inform you, unofficially, of the death of your son Charles. As the medical officer of the command here it was my privilege to know Charles very well, and I assure you of my heartfelt sympathy, as I feel that I, too, have suffered a personal loss. It might not be

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amiss to tell you that among the men of his company he was one of the best liked and most popular, and was known as being a good chum, a man to be depended on. Charles was brought to the hospital to me on the 18th of February with a high temperature and the usual symptoms of Spanish influenza. He became progressively worse, and although we gave him, as you will understand, the best of care and never left him alone for a moment, despite all our efforts he died yesterday at 4:45 p. m. He was conscious up to the last moment and suffered no pain, his passing away being very tranquil. Again assuring you of my heartfelt sympathy, I am, Sincerely yours, Walter L. Deemer, Lieutenant, M. C. U. S. Navy." Following this tribute came another from "We, the fellows of the 44th Company," in which they expressed over their signatures "our deepest sorrow over the death of your beloved son." The young soldier's remains were brought back to Middletown, in March, 1919, where they were given burial with full military honors.

Frank Wilson Compton. Four generations of the Compton family have tilled the soil of the Miami valley and the properties favored by their occupancy invariably have borne the stamp of thoroughness, method and success. A worthy representative of the family name, and one who has maintained its best traditions, is Frank Wilson Compton, owner of the Loyal Stock farm in Lemon township, Butler county, who has not only been successful as an agriculturist but is also prominently known in the grain trade, with an elevator at Oakland Station. Mr. Compton was born on a farm in Turtle Creek township, Warren county, O., September 8, 1875, a son of James E. Compton. His paternal grandfather, Enoch D. Compton, was born at Mount Healthy, Hamilton county, and following his marriage to Martha P. McClellan of Butler county became an early settler of Franklin township, Warren county, where he bought a new farm. This he cleared and cultivated, made many improvements, and continued to occupy as an agriculturist during the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, as follows: Sarah E., who is unmarried and makes her residence on the old home place in Warren county; Ann, who is deceased; Jane, deceased, who was the wife of E. B. Harkrader; James E.; Charles, who prior to his death was a Butler county farmer; Catherine, of Lemon township, the widow of William Lackens; John W., a resident of Trinidad, Colorado; and Frank M., an attorney of Dayton. James E. Compton was given the advantages of only a common school education, as his youth and boyhood were passed in a new country where almost primitive conditions as to education still existed. Following his marriage he located on a farm in Warren county, and through his natural industry, his fine ability and his good business management became one of the large farmers and stock growers of his locality, having a splendidly cultivated and highly improved farm in Turtle Creek township. He raised Clydesdale horses for the market and exhibited them at fairs, and his judgment in regard to all kinds of live stock was considered so sound that he was frequently called upon for advice and counsel in matters pertaining to that industry.

He was a voter of the Republican persuasion, was active in church work, and for many years was an elder in the United Presbyterian church at Monroe. He died in 1906 at the age of fifty-two years, his widow surviving him until 1918, when she passed away at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of three children, namely: Frank Wilson, of this notice; Henrietta, who married W. D. Ralston, a farmer of Lemon township, Butler county; and Harry J., an attorney of Dayton, who died in 1912 at the age of thirty-two years. Frank Wilson Compton was educated in the public schools of Warren county, where he was reared as a farmer's son and taught all the principles of agriculture. He was married in 1894 and in that same year located in Lemon township, where he farmed one property for seven years, then, in 1912, buying what was then known as the Alexander farm, but now known as the Loyal Stock Farm, a tract of 101 acres lying at Oakland Station. While Mr. Compton has done some general farming, he has concentrated the greater part of his industrious energies in stock breeding, his favorites being Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron horses. He is widely known throughout his part of Butler county, and wherever his acquaintance extends is regarded as an upright and worthy man, and one of the foremost representatives of the agricultural element in his section. He commands the esteem and confidence of all who come in contact with him in the daily walks of life. In 1912 Mr. Compton embarked in the grain business, handling all kinds of grain, coal and fencing, and in 1917 built his present elevator, of 6,000 bushels capacity, at Oakland. The high confidence in which Mr. Compton is held is shown in the fact that he is trustee for the J. E. Compton estate and agent for the E. D. Compton estate. He takes only a voter's interest in political affairs, his support being given to the Republican party. September 4, 1894, Mr. Compton was married to Miss Mary Baird, of Lemon township, a daughter of Joseph H. and Sarah (Banker) Baird, the latter of whom is deceased, while the former, a retired farmer, is a resident of Middletown. Mrs. Compton is a Baptist of the old school, while Mr. Compton belongs to the United Presbyterian church at Monroe and actively interested in church work.

William H. Compton. By reason of the quality and broad extent of his community helpfulness, his business and financial enterprise, acumen and soundness and his closeness to the fundamental requirements of good citizenship, William H. Compton, in his career, has furnished an encouraging example of success attained through the proper application of ordinary opportunities. Mr. Compton, who is president of the Monroe National bank, prominently connected with other large enterprises, and an extensive farmer and stock breeder in Butler county, was born at Glendale, Hamilton county, O., June 28, 1859, a son of Wilson M. and Elizabeth (Hunt) Compton. Elias Compton, the grandfather of William H., was born in New Jersey, where he was married to Bershabe Hill, also a native of that state. They were early settlers in Hamilton county, O., locating near Glendale, where the grandfather secured land and developed a farm. There he and his worthy wife passed

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the remainder of their lives in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. They were the parents of the following children: Enoch, Ezeriah, Joseph, Charles, Samuel, Wilson M., Mary Ann and Phoebe. Wilson M. Compton was born at Mount Healthy, O., and grew up in Hamilton county, where he received a common school education. In his native community he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Hunt, who was born near Trenton, N. J., a daughter of Randolph and Martha Hunt, natives of New Jersey and early settlers of Hamilton county, where they passed their lives as tillers of the soil. There were the following children in the Hunt family: Noah, Israel, Henry, Charles, Rachel, Elizabeth and Martha. In 1860 Wilson M. Compton came to Butler county and settled on the farm now occupied by his son. An arduous task confronted him, for the land was practically a swamp and the house located thereon was set upon stilts. He at first secured eighty acres, and with characteristic industry started about draining and clearing it, his labors eventuating in the development of a valuable and productive property. To his original holdings he added over 100 acres, and as the years passed he built a comfortable and commodious home, a substantial barn and good outbuildings, and made numerous other improvements which added to the value and attractiveness of the farm. During the rest of his life he carried on general farming, and at the time of his death in 1908, when he was eighty-one years of age, he was one of the well-to-do men of his locality. He was a public-spirited citizen and a man of high moral principles, and for some years was an elder in the Presbyterian church at Monroe, of which his wife, who died in 1895, at the age of fifty-six years, was also a member. They were the parents of four children: Elias, educated in the home schools, the normal school at Lebanon, Princeton university, and Wooster (Ohio) university, from which he was graduated, and for many years dean of the last-named instiution, married Ottillia Augsperger, and had four children—Karl, Mary, Wilson and Arthur; William H., of this review; Charles, educated in the home schools and at Princeton university, and now corresponding secretary of Wooster university, married Elizabeth White and has five children—Martha, Lelia, William, Mary and Charles; and Anna, the wife of Charles E. Greismer, of Hamilton. William H. Compton received his education in the home schools of the Monroe community, and throughout his career has been identified with agricultural pursuits and has made his home in the country. During the past twenty years he has been a breeder of thoroughbred Southdown sheep, which have won fame, prizes and ribbons at various fairs, having been exhibited in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, New York and elsewhere. For the past ten years Mr. Compton has also been a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, mixed hogs and Percheron horses, and few men are conceded to be better informed as to all kinds of livestock. Mr. Compton is a student of his vocation, keeping fully abreast of all developing movements, and is an enthusiastic Granger and a member of the Franklin Farmers' club. While he has been prominent as a breeder of stock, he has likewise been active and prominent in business and

financial affairs and is accounted by his associates to be possessed of high ability in these directions. He was one of the organizers of the Monroe National bank, of Monroe, O., which was founded in 1905 with a capital of $25,000, and of which Mr. Compton has been president for fourteen years, the other officials being at this time: William M. Stewart, vice-president; H. Q. Galahar, second vice-president; and S. K. Hughes, F. M. Hughes, C. S. Longstreet, W. P. Henderson and A. T. Smith, directors. Mr. Compton was also one of the organizers of the Butler County Canning company, of Monroe, organized and incorporated in 1914, the following officials now governing its affairs: William M. Stewart, president; and A. T. Smith, C. S. Longstreet, Freeman Smith and William H. Compton, directors and sole owners. Of Mr. Compton it may be said that his life work is a response to both his early teachings and to the needs of his environment. From the time that he entered upon his independent career, he has laboriously climbed every rung of the ladder of success, and in his various capacities invests his occupations with good judgment and unquestioned integrity, which far-sighted qualities have insured him a permanent place among the substantial upbuilders of his community. He is an elder in the United Presbyterian church, and votes the Republican ticket. Mrs. Compton, who is also prominent and popular in the locality, has been active in all manner of religious and charitable work, particularly as a member of the Missionary society and the Red Cross. Mr. Compton was married January 5, 1881, to Miss Ann M. Van Dyke, who was born at Middletown, O., daughter of I. N. and Caroline Van Dyke, the former a native of Warren county, O., and the latter of New Jersey. Mr. Van Dyke was a carpenter and farmer and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Compton are the parents of three children: Bertha, the wife of E. D. Curryer, living one mile east of Middletown; Harry L., superintendent of the A. R. M. Co., married Cecelia Mulford; and W. Elmer, at home, a graduate of the agricultural department of Ohio State university, and married to Miss Helen Roberts of Franklin township, Warren county, O.

George Conrad, one of the successful farmers of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, was born in Cincinnati, December 25, 1868, son of John and Elizabeth (Meerman) Conrad. John Conrad and wife were born in Germany and were married in that country. Upon coming to the United States, they settled first in Cincinnati, then came to Butler county and located near St. Charles, later removing to Fairfield township. John Conrad is still living in Fairfield township and makes his home with one of his children, his wife being deceased. Their children were: Joseph, George, subject of this sketch; Jacob, Andrew, Mary, Mrs. William Konrad of Hamilton; Fred, Catherine, Mrs. George Groh, of Fairfield township; and John. John Conrad, wife and children were devout Catholics, and for many years worshiped in St. Joseph's church at Hamilton. George Conrad, our subject, was educated in the common schools of Butler county, and as boy and young man, worked on the farm. He was married September 14, 1898, to Mary Streit, the daughter of John and Amelia (Haberman) Streit, of Cin-

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cinnati. John and Amelia Streit moved to Butler county and located in Hamilton. They had six children: Mary, wife of subject; Pauline, Mrs. Anthony Duellman; John, Michael, Edward, George. Mr. Streit is deceased and Mrs. Streit is living in Hamilton. After their marriage, Mr. Conrad and wife lived in Hamilton, where he worked at the carpenter trade, a knowledge of which he had acquired in his youth, but the call of the farm was too pronounced, and he soon returned to the country. In 1914, he came into possession of the place known as the Len Jones farm, in Fairfield township, which has since been his family home. The farm consists of 100 acres, and the soil is fertile and productive, and under careful, intelligent and systematic management, has become a very valuable property. Mr. and Mrs. Conrad had five children, one of whom died in infancy. The others: Hilda, Sylvester, Andrew and George. Mr. Conrad gave cordial support to the various war activities and cheerfully "did his bit." He and his entire family are Catholics and worship at St. Ann's church. Mr. Conrad belongs to the Knights of St. John and the Moose order, and votes with the Democratic party.

William P. Cope, now deceased was for many years prominently associated with educational work in Butler county, and for nearly a quarter of a century was principal of the Hamilton High school, where the results of his elevated ideals and excellent methods are still felt. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, in March, 1850, a son of Simon and Rachel (Prithett) Cope, and their only child, his mother being the second wife of his father. Simon Cope was born in Pennsylvania, and his wife was a native of New Jersey, and both were of Quaker stock. At a very early day they came to Columbiana county, O., where he engaged in farming, and there they both died. William P. Cope attended the schools of Alliance, O., and then secured his A. B. and A. M. degrees from Hiram college, and his Ph. D. degree from the college at Wooster, O. The first experience of Mr. Cope as an educator was secured at Burton, in Monroe county, O., at Woodsfield, and at Cleveland, O. Then, in 1885, he came to Hamilton, and was elected principal of the high school, and held that position for twenty-four years, during that period making a magnificant record which will stand as a lasting monument to his scholarly attainments and his fidelity to the responsibilities laid on his shoulders. He was a man who expanded with his times. Never content to rest upon the laurels already gained, he sought in every way to inaugurate new methods and include extra studies which would tend to better fit his young charges for their life work. A man of sympathetic tendencies, he easily gained the confidence of his pupils, while his dignity and knowledge won and held their absolute respect, so that his influence over their plastic minds was exceedingly strong, and very beneficial. When he died, January 1, 1915, the rising generation of Hamilton lost one who would have assisted very efficiently in guiding and training the as yet unformed characters of those who in the natural course of events would have been placed in his charge. While at Hiram, O., Mr. Cope was united in marriage, in 1878, to Miss Rose

Tilden, a daughter of D. C. and Catherine (Vroman) Tilden, of Herkimer county, N. Y., who came west to Hiram, O., in 1854, and were engaged as farming people in developing a valuable property in the vicinity of Hiram. Mr. Tilden died in 1868, his widow surviving him for many years, passing away when she had attained the venerable age of eighty-five years. Mr. Tilden was very active in politics, supporting the candidates and principles of the Democratic party, and he was a well-known man throughout his county. Mr. and Mrs. Tilden had three children, namely: Rose, who is Mrs. Cope; Ella, who is Mrs. Mark Davis of Cincinnati, Ohio; and George, who is a business man of Hiram, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Cope became the parents of two children, namely: De Witt and Ella Mae. The son after attending Amherst college and Harvard university, was admitted to the bar, and is engaged in the practice of his profession at Boston, Mass. He was married to Gertrude Qunio, and they have one son, William. The daughter attended Mt. Holyoke college, from which she was graduated in 1907, following which she became a teacher in the Hamilton High school, where she has remained ever since, specializing in history. She is highly educated, and an active and appreciated member of the Teachers' Club of Hamilton. Mr. Cope was a Blue Lodge and Chapter Mason, and was treasurer of the Hamilton Chapter for many years. His social connections were with the Unity club, of which he was a member for twenty-five years. Like his father-in-law, the Democratic party held his allegiance, and, although he did not desire office, he always was active in local affairs. While he was so useful a man in his community, Mr. Cope's best characteristics were after all displayed in his home, and he gave to his wife and children a devotion that was ideal, also eminently practical. Taking him from every viewpoint, Mr. Cope measured up to the highest standards of American manhood, and many of the leading citizens of Hamilton, and other communities, who had the good fortune to attend the schools over which he presided, owe much of their present material advancement and mental development to his fostering care and upright example.

Fred W. Cormier, who for more than a quarter of a century has been one of the leading and well known undertakers of Oxford, was born at Oxford, August 12, 1876, a son of Frederick and Odella (Courtemanche) Cormier, natives of Canada, who came to College Corner, Ohio, in 1860, and to Oxford in 1862. Frederick Cormier was a cabinet maker by trade and conducted a shop at Oxford until 1887, in which year he engaged in the retail liquor business, with which he was identified until 1905. He then retired from active affairs and died February 14, 1914, at the age of seventy-four years. He was a business man of marked good judgment, and invested to a considerable extent in realty in Oxford, among his holdings being the building at the corner of High and Beech streets, of which he was the builder. He was a staunch Democrat and a faithful member of St. Mary's Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Cormier were the parents of four children: Odella, who died April 1, 1892, as the wife of Jacob Berry; Horace D., who was a wagon maker and undertaker

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and died November 20, 1910; Amanda, who died October 10, 1910, as the wife of George Free; and Fred W. Fred W. Cormier obtained his early education in the Oxford graded and high schools and after his graduation from the latter enrolled as a student at Miami university, where he completed his course in 1894. In that year he embarked in business with his father, with whom he continued until the latter's retirement, and then for two years was variously employed. In 1907 he started his present business as a funeral director, and since then has built up a patronage among the best families of the city, who have come to regard him as a man of much sympathy and exceedingly painstaking in his care for their dead. For a time Mr. Cormier was also engaged in the grocery business at Oxford, but has since disposed of his interests in this direction. As a citizen he has been a ready supporter of good and progressive movements, and as a politician votes with the Democrat party, and in his various civic connections and business interests and in every avenue of life has shown himself a man of high principles. With Mrs. Cormier, he belongs to St. Mary's Catholic church of Oxford, and has contributed to its moral and charitable enterprises. May 14, 1902, Mr. Cormier was united in marriage with Miss Rosa A. Van Ness, a former resident of Shelbyville, Ind. They have no children.

Harry Edson Cornthwaite, whose ownership of 240 acres of productive Butler county farming land places him in the substantial agricultural class of his community, has been a resident of Wayne township throughout his life, and both as a progressive farmer and a public-spirited citizen has contributed to the growth of the locality interests. Mr. Cornthwaite was born in St. Clair township, at Overpeck Station, December 22, 1869, a son of Frank Cornthwaite. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Cornthwaite, Frank Cornthwaite the elder, was born in England, and as a small boy came from the family home at Kendal to the United States, with his parents, the family settling at Trenton, Ohio, among the first settlers of that community. Letters written from friends in England, bearing the date of 1789, and with the regular 25 cents postage fee attached, are now in the possession of Harry E. Cornthwaite, and are in a good state of preservation. Locating west of Trenton, the family secured Government land, on which they erected a brick house which remains as one of the landmarks of the locality, and there the grandfather continued to follow the pursuits of agriculture until his death, April 27, 1867. He was first married April 13, 1820, to Mary Cowgill, who was born January 6, 1798, and died June 28, 1828, and his second wife, with whom he was united June 25, 1829, was Peggy Bone, born July 16, 1805, who died May 1, 1883. There were six children in the family of Frank and Mary Cornthwaite, namely: Jane, born January 30, 1821, who married Israel Carr and died September 23, 1841; Isabelle, born August 4, 1822, who married Stephen Carr and died April 19, 1842; Thomas, born March 1, 1824, married Rhoda Kerr; Elizabeth, born October 10, 1825; Sarah Ann, born February 14, 1827, married a Mr. Peck; and Mary, born June 21, 1828, married Reading Busenbark. By his second marriage, Mr. Cornthwaite had eight children: Robert Lytle, born November 8, 1830, married a

Miss Good; Samuel Elander, born October 2, 1834; William Henry, born September 13, 1837, married Tabitha Williams, and died November 23, 1861, his wife dying December 2, 1864; Francis, father of Harry E., born April 11, 1840; David, born February 26, 1842, at Somerville, Ohio, a farmer, married a Miss Judy; Augustus, born September 17, 1844; John, who died at the age of fifty-seven years; and Edward, who died aged eighty-one years. The father of Harry E. Cornthwaite, Francis Cornthwaite, was born April 11, 1840, and was educated at Trenton. He was married February 11, 1869, to Rebecca Isabelle Patten, who was born October 30, 1848, and following their union located at Overpeck, in which community he was engaged in farming for nine years. Removing then to Wayne township, he settled on the farm now occupied by his son, the old Thomas place, in section 23, where he secured eighty acres and continued to apply himself to the pursuits of tilling the soil and reaping the harvests. He carried on general farming, operated a threshing outfit, and also bought and sold stock, being remarkably successful in all his undertakings, due no doubt to his great industry, his good management, and the confidence which he inspired in his associates through his strict integrity. He died August 31, 1885, on his farm, which was occupied by his widow until March, 1899, when she located at Seven Mile, subsequently moving to her present home at Trenton, Ohio, where she died May 1, 1919. She was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church. While Mr. Cornthwaite was a stalwart Republican he never desired public office. The only child of his parents, Harry E. Cornthwaite received his education in the local public schools, and has always lived at home, having been the occupant of his present farm for forty-one years. He now has a property of 240 acres, which he is operating in a skilled and successful manner, and this property has been highly cultivated and made greatly valuable through the erection of substantial and attractive buildings and the installment of modern improvements. In addition to carrying on general farming, he raises all kinds of live stock, including horses, cattle and hogs, and operates a threshing outfit during the season, in addition to which he was for eight years engaged in the butchering business. He is an energetic and progressive man, always ready to give a trial to any innovation which promises to make a step forward in agricultural standards. His political beliefs make him a Republican, and for two terms he served capably in the office of assessor. Formerly he was a member of the Knights of Pythias at Seven Mile. Mr. Cornthwaite was married September 15, 1891, to Emma Elisa, daughter of Martin and Ann (Schull) Goebel, farming people of Madison township, Butler county, who lived southeast of Hamilton, where both died. To Mr. and Mrs. Cornthwaite there have been born seven children: Frank, born March 7, 1894, who married Anna Marie King, and is a farmer in Wayne township, and also follows the occupation of threshing; Gordon, born October 21, 1896, in the United States Army, Eighteenth Regiment, F. A. R. D., Battery F, Camp Jackson, S. C.; Lee G., born May 21, 1899, now with the Rock Island Plow company as an expert on plowing; Mildred, born Aug-

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH P. CORY

ust 9, 1901, attended a commercial college at Hamilton and is now with the First National bank of Hamilton; Wilbur G., born September 9, 1903; George G., born January 20, 1907; and Glenn, born December 26, 1910. The children have all been given good educational advantages in the home schools.

Joseph Pitman Cory. Among the highly respected retired citizens of Seven Mile, none is held in higher esteem than Joseph Pitman Cory. A veteran of the Civil war, in which he rendered his country brave and faithful service, he was subsequently for many years one of the leading agriculturists of Butler county, and during his active years a promoter of his community's best interests. Mr. Cory was born at New Carlisle, O., November 2, 1840, a son of Aaron H. and Lucy Ann (Pitman) Cory, a grandson of Thomas Cory, also born at New Carlisle, and a member of a family of English and Scotch extraction. On the maternal side he is a grandson of Joseph Pitman, of New Jersey, who was an early settler of New Carlisle, Ohio, in which community he spent many years as a farmer. Joseph Pitman's children were: Daniel, George, Aaron, Samuel, William, Lydia M., Joseph, John, Lucy Ann and Maria. Aaron H. Cory was born at New Carlisle, and was given only a limited education, but was a man of natural gifts, intelligent, shrewd and of good judgment. He was a young man when he changed his residence to Carlisle, whence, in 1849, upon the discovery of gold in California, he went to the Pacific coast, working his way via the Isthmus of Panama. Soon discerning that only a small minority could hope to gain their fortunes through mining, he joined his brother, David, in the stock business, first at Jamaica and later at the gold fields in California, and during the two years that he carried on trading with the mining camps managed to accumulate the sum of $10,000. Returning via Cape Horn, he located again at Carlisle, but soon went to Muncie, Ind., where he purchased 400 acres of land. After residing in that community for six years he sold out and again located at Carlisle, where he purchased a farm, and a saw and gristmill, but after several years disposed of his interests and again went to Muncie, where he continued to be engaged in the hotel business until his death in 1873, his widow surviving him seven years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics, Mr. Cory was originally a Whig and later a Republican. There were four children in the family: Joseph Pitman; Winfield Scott, who enlisted in the 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the Army of the Potomac, under General Kiefer, served three years, was taken prisoner at Cedar Creek and after confinement in prison of over a year was so weakened that it was necessary to carry him out to the Union lines, but subsequently recovered and located at Indianapolis, Ind., where his death occurred in 1917; William, an awning manufacturer of Carlisle, O., and Muncie, Ind., and died November 3, 1916; and Laura, who resides at Union, Ind. Joseph Pitman Cory attended the public schools of Muncie, Ind., and Linden Hill academy, and at the outbreak of the Civil war, in April, 1861, enlisted at Carlisle, in the Sixteenth Ohio Battery. Sent to St. Louis, his battery was then transferred to Jefferson City, Mo., where it remained from Septem-

ber 5 to December 25, and later took part in the Vicksburg campaign under General Grant, in the Army of the Tennessee. Later the battery went to New Orleans and on nearly to Brownsville, Tex., whence Mr. Cory returned to his home on a furlough, and in the spring of 1864 Mr. Cory and three comrades were sent to Carlisle on recruiting duty, Mr. Cory succeeding in securing forty new men for the battery. Later he returned to New Orleans and rejoined his command, with which he served until the close of the war, being mustered out at Columbus after a service of four years and five months, and receiving his honorable discharge at Camp Chase, September 5, 1865. His service was one characterized by faithful performance of duty and the utmost bravery in action, and during the last two years he acted as orderly sergeant. Following the close of his military service, Mr. Cory located at Miltonville, O., where his father owned land, and remained three years. During this time, September 26, 1866, he married Susie K., daughter of Henry and Catherine (Husk) Snively, natives of Pennsylvania who had come to Butler county as young people, and after their marriage located on a farm in section 26, Wayne township. There the first wife died at the age of forty-five years, and Mr. Snively took for his second wife a Mrs. Wells, who died in 1871, Mr. Snively surviving until 1878, and being seventy-four years of age at the time of his demise. He was the father of eight children, all by his first union, and of these three survive: Samuel, of Elwood, Ind.; Mrs. Cory; and Maria E., the wife of H. H. Long, of Hamilton, O. For about three years after his marriage, Mr. Cory was engaged in the flour and sawmill business at Miltonville, and then engaged in farming for three years on a property of his own. Eventually he located on the old Snively farm in Wayne township, on which he carried on successful operations for a period of twenty-nine years, retiring to Seven Mile in 1914. During his active years, Mr. Cory was known as one of the most progressive agriculturists of his county and was always ready to try new inventions and innovations. He purchased the first cream separator in his neighborhood, at one time owned one of the finest herds of Jersey cattle in the Miami valley, and in various other ways demonstrated his modern spirit. His reputation throughout life has been that of an honorable business man and a patriotic and public-spirited citizen. He still takes interest in the Grand Army of the Republic and the Union Veterans' League, and is a contributor to religious and charitable work as a member of the Missionary society of the Presbyterian church. Both he and Mrs. Cory are greatly esteemed in their community, where they have hosts of warm friends.

Elmer H. Coulter. Butler county has many skilled farmers who treat their vocation more as a profession than as an occupation and take a justifiable pride in their accomplishments, and among these may be mentioned Elmer H. Coulter, one of the prominent agriculturists of Oxford township. Mr. Coulter was born at College Corner, Ohio, May 14, 1866, a son of Charles S. Coulter. His grandfather was William Coulter, who was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, March 25, 1783, a member of a family of Scotch Presbyterian

stock, the members of which had fled Scotland in 1686 to avoid religious persecution. He passed his entire life in his native Erin, where his death occurred March 20, 1865. Charles S. Coulter was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, July 16, 1830, and at the age of sixteen years left his father's home and came to the United States in search of his fortune. Upon his arrival he secured employment on the old Thomas Coulter place, and later worked at Fairhaven and Morning Sun, and when still a young man was employed by the month by Doctor Porter for a period of five or six years, and on a farm near College Corner. Eventually he purchased a farm in Oxford township known as the Joseph Booth place, where he has resided since 1884 with his son. In 1914 they built the fine brick home, which came as a finishing touch to the various other modern improvements which were made. Mr. Coulter is a country gentleman of the old school and one who has made and held numerous friendships. He is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliation and a faithful member of the United Presbyterian church at Oxford, to which also belonged his wife, who passed away in 1914. She bore the maiden name of Catherine Herron, was of Milford township, Butler county, and a member of a family of English stock, being reared as an Episcopalian, and married Mr. Coulter December 6, 1853, at which time she adopted the Presbyterian faith. They became the parents of seven children: Margaret B., born October 10, 1854, who died in infancy; William L., born September 15, 1856, who married Maggie Douglass; John T., born August 24, 1858, who married Elizabeth Clark and has had the following children: Wilbur, a commission man at the Denver (Col.) stock yards; Jennie, the wife of Joseph Jewell of Oxford township; Howard in the transfer business at Oxford; Edwin, who met a hero's death as a member of the A. E. F. in the late war; Arthur, who married Ella Doty and lives on the home place; Marjorie, a teacher at Morning Sun, and John, at home attending the university at Oxford; Emma J., born April 19, 1861, who married David Johnson of Pueblo, Colo., and had two sons, Charles, an engineer engaged in construction work on a railroad in Idaho, and Thomas, who is deceased; George E., born July 22, 1863, and now retired at Hamilton; Lizzie M., born April 28, 1868, who married George Roll; and Elmer H. Elmer H. Coulter attended the home schools and spent one year at Miami university, and passed his boyhood and youth in much the same manner as other farmers' sons of his day and community. He was married October 19, 1893, to Dora Krebs of Milford township, a daughter of Charles Krebs, whose life review will be found on another page of this work. To this union there have been born four children. The eldest, Harold Krebs, was born November 4, 1894, in Oxford township, and attended High school and the Miami university. He joined the National Guards in June 1916, as a member of Company E, 3d Ohio, and was sent to the Mexican border. January 28, 1918, he received his commission in the regular army and was sent to Fort Leavenworth, where he spent three months in the officers' training camp. He was then commissioned first lieutenant and sent to Fort Bliss, and after further preparation his company went to Waco, Texas, whence it went to Camp Merritt. In August, 1918, it sailed for overseas, and after

landing at Bordeaux went to Toul and was in training for two weeks. He took part in the engagement at St. Mihiel and was at Metz, and was then transferred to the air service, continuing with that branch of the service until his honorable discharge, with the exception of the time that he spent in the hospital. He was married August 17, 1914, to Nora M. Smith, of Cleveland, Ohio, a daughter of Fred C. and Elizabeth (Meredith) Smith, the former of Cleveland and the latter of Philadelphia, Mr. Smith having been in transportation service on the Great Lakes. Lieutenant and Mrs. Coulter have one son, Harold Meredith, born July 21, 1916. Marion Coulter, the second son of Elmer H. Coulter, was born November 28, 1895. He attended the High school from which he graduated and Miami university. He enlisted in the United States service in January, 1917, and received his commission as first lieutenant, subsequently seeing much active service overseas. Catherine Elizabeth, the elder daughter of Elmer H. Coulter, was born January 26, 1899, and is a graduate of Oxford High school and Miami university, and later became a student in a young ladies' finishing school in Virginia. Dorothea Emma, the youngest child of Elmer H. Coulter, was born March 8, 1902, and received her education at Oxford High school and Oxford college. With the exception of six years which he spent in Kansas while his wife was recovering her health, and in which he engaged in farming there, Elmer H. Coulter has always been associated with his father in farming and stock raising operations. He is now the owner of a handsome property of 200 acres, and is a shipper of cattle and hogs. He is considered one of the best judges of stock in his part of the county, and his judgment is frequently sought upon questions relating to agricultural matters. He is a Republican in politics and he and the members of his family belong to the United Brethren church. Mr. Coulter is entitled to membership in the Sons of Veterans, as his father served as a member of the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war.

Howard S. Coulter, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Coulter, was born in Oxford township, May 24, 1889. It was in the district schools of his native township that he received his education, and after leaving school, he became active in the milk business. Later he went to Colorado, where he was a cow-puncher, and stage-driver. When, in later years, he returned to Butler county, he engaged in the transfer business in Oxford, and became the president of the H. S. Coulter Transfer company, which, operating ten auto trucks, is engaged principally in hauling overland live stock to Cincinnati. From the Ohio river city the trucks return with shipments of hardware, groceries, and other heavy freight, to Oxford, College Corner, and other localities. Other officers of the company are: S. B. Douglass, secretary; J. A. Douglass, treasurer; and Homer Dare, vice-president. Some years ago, Mr. Coulter married Edna C. Doty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam L. Doty, of Oxford. They have one child, Leon, who is seven years old. During the days of America's part in the war, Mr. Coulter gave much of his time and earnest effort to war activities, aiding in the various drives, and evidencing the keen, patriotic spirit of the red-blooded American.

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS W. COULTER

John R. Coulter. A career of sturdy industry and signal usefulness, eventuating in well-merited success, has been that of John R. Coulter, who is now one of the representative agriculturists of Oxford township and the owner of a valuable property and modern home. His earlier years were passed in vocations other than that of agriculture, but eventually he returned to the occupation of his forefathers, which he has found to be the medium through which to gain success and the satisfying things of life. Mr. Coulter was born near Fairhaven, Ohio, August 24, 1858, a son of Charles S. and Catherine (Herron) Coulter, a review of whose careers will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of William L. Coulter. Educated primarily in the public schools, he secured further advantages by attending Miami university, and after his graduation from that institution of learning became a traveling man and for two years sold clothing as a representative of large Ohio establishments. When he left that occupation it was to take up butchering, which he followed for seven years, and also had some experience in the live stock business at Oxford, but finally turned his attention to farming in Oxford township, and in 1908 located on his present ninety-acre farm. During his residence in this community he has been connected with the best interests of Butler county, and is accounted one of the progressive men of his locality. Mr. Coulter was married in 1882 to Sarah E., daughter of Richard A. and Rebeca Clark, of Oxford township, and to this union there have been born seven children: Jennie, who married Joseph Jewell of Oxford township and has six children; George Wilbur, who married Maxine Hinon; Howard S., who married Edna Doty; Edwin, who met a hero's death in France; Arthur, who married Ella Doty; Marjorie E., who is engaged in teaching school; and John R., jr., residing on the home farm. Edwin Coulter was twenty-seven years of age when, in 1917, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He received his training at Quantico, Va., and in August, 1918, was sent overseas to France. Placed in command of a squadron of "Eight Automatics," French guns, he led a gallant charge in the Champagne sector, October 4, 1918, and while his command reached its objective he was among those found dead on the brilliantly won field. He was a youth who was extremely popular in his home community as well as among his comrades in the Marines, and his death caused widespread sorrow.

Thomas W. Coulter. While Butler county has its full quota of merchants, financiers, manufacturers and professional men, it has been particularly noted for the high standards set by its agriculturists, whose energy and enterprise during the past half a century have served to make this part of the Miami valley one of the garden spots of Ohio. A contributor to this work of agricultural development has been Thomas W. Coulter, of Milford township, the owner of a splendid farm and a citizen of importance and influence in his home community. He was born in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, February 11, 1853, a son of John and Margaret (Coulter) Coulter. On the maternal side, Mr. Coulter's grandparents were

Thomas and Isabella Coulter, natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, who were married in their native Erin, and after coming to this country settled first in Pennsylvania, from where they removed to Hamilton, and finally to Milford township, buying Government land. There they passed their remaining years, building a home from the wilderness and rearing the following children: Martha, who married William McClelland, who was born in the old stockade at Fort Hamilton, and lived near Hamilton; Eliza, who married William Douglass; Thomas, who married Lucinda Clendening; Margaret, who became the wife of John Coulter and the mother of Thomas W.; and Jane, who married Samuel Douglass. The paternal grandparents of Thomas W. Coulter, William and Matilda Coulter, were also born in County Tyrone, Ireland, and never came to the United States. Their son, John Coulter, was twenty-three years of age when he came to the United States, his sister Matilda and brother Charles also coming here. There were five other children: Robert, William, Margaret, Thomas and Catherine. Charles, at the age of ninety-one years, is still living in Butler county, residing with his son, Elmer, in Oxford township. This veteran of the Civil war married Catherine Herron. John Coulter, upon his arrival in the United States, settled first in Illinois for two years and then came to Butler county, where he was married about three years later. He at that time settled on the farm adjoining that upon which his son now lives, but later moved to the latter place, where he still lives at a very advanced age, his wife having passed away some years ago. Thomas W. Coulter was educated in the public schools, after leaving which he was engaged in farming as an associate of his father. He was married in October, 1878, to Caroline Cooper, of New Brunswick, N. J., who came to Oxford township with her grandparents, her mother having died. Later she went back to New Jersey to live with her father, Jacob Cooper, who was a professor in Rutgers college, N. J., and who had served as a chaplain in the Union army during the Civil war. He was at one time connected with Danville (Ky.) college, and was a man of great learning and intellectuality. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Coulter moved to a property near their present home, and at the time of Mr. Coulter's father's retirement, the younger man took over the management of the home place, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation and improvement, the property responding splendidly to his enthusiastic and well-managed labors. Mr. and Mrs. Coulter are the parents of five children: Charles Robert, Margaret Elizabeth, James Abraham, Helen E. and Mary Estelle. Charles Robert, a graduate of Miami university and the University of Michigan, is now a New York attorney, is married, and has two children, Caroline and Janet. Margaret Elizabeth, after graduating from Miami university and Cornell university, taught school until her marriage to Henry Stevenson, of Portland, Ore.; James Abraham, a graduate in chemistry of Miami university, is now superintendent of Port Ivory, Staten Island, N. Y. He married Pearl Smith and has one child: Mary Louise. Mary Estelle, a graduate of Oxford Female

college, married O. Van Sickle, of Akron, Ohio, and has four children: Thomas, John, Mary and Helen Margaret; Helen, a graduate of Oxford Female college, taught school until her marriage to Harold Ronderbush, of Akron. She died in March, 1919, leaving one child: Allen T. Mr. Coulter is one of the successful agriculturists of his community, being the owner of 166 acres in his home tract and 480 acres in Kansas, and having varied and important interests. Always a hard worker, intelligently applying the training of a lifetime of experience to his calling, he has developed a fine property and has something to show for his efforts. He and the members of his family are Presbyterians. The Coulter family is one which is widely known and has many important connections, as well as being a very numerous one, as in this branch there are 184 direct descendants from his grandfather, of whom 134 are living. He has always been a public-spirited citizen, as have others bearing the name, and all have contributed materially to the welfare of their community, county, state and country. During the late war Mr. Coulter was generous in his subscriptions to war activities, and many of the Coulter name bore arms in the great struggle. One of his close relatives, Edwin Coulter, met a hero's death on a battlefield in Flanders, and Philip and Allen Coulter, of Fort Worth, Texas, sons of John Coulter, a cousin of Mr. Coulter of this review, saw active service overseas with the American Expeditionary Forces.

William L. Coulter. Butler county is noted for the excellence of its farms, as well as for the public spirit and enterprise of those who till them. One of these successful farmers, a resident of the county for many years, and still engaged in active pursuits, is William L. Coulter, who operates a fine tract of 151 acres in Milford township. Mr. Coulter was born near Darrtown, Ohio, in 1856, a son of Charles and Catherine (Herron) Coulter, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Butler county, Ohio. In young manhood Charles Coulter emigrated to the United States, and after being variously employed several years settled on a Butler county farm. While living there he met and married Catherine, daughter of Hugh and Margaret (Kramer) Herron, the latter of whom had two brothers, Thomas and William, who were soldiers during the Civil war. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Coulter settled on a farm in Milford township, subsequently moved to Oxford township, and finally retired from active affairs and located at Oxford, where Mrs. Coulter died. They were the parents of the following children: Emma, who is the wife of David Johnson; Lizzie, who is the wife of George Roll; William L., of this review; John, of Oxford township; George, of Hamilton; and Elmer, of Oxford township. William L. Coulter was educated in the public schools of his native community and at Miami university, although he did not complete his course at the latter, leaving school at the age of twenty-two years in order to begin assisting his father in the work of the home place. He was married in 1882 to Maggie, daughter of Samuel and Isabella (Coulter) Douglass, who resided at Oxford, where the father died in 1895 and the mother in 1901. They were the parents of two children: Martha,

who married David Stewart; and Maggie, who became Mrs. Coulter. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Coulter resided on the former's father's farm for eight years, then moved to their present farm of 151 acres in Milford township, in addition to which Mr. Coulter owns another farm, of seventy-seven acres, in Oxford township. In his general farming and stock raising work, Mr. Coulter makes use of modern machinery and up-to-date methods, and in every way shows himself to be a practical and scientific farmer. He is not a politician nor does he seek public office, but takes a keen interest in public affairs and is intelligently informed upon questions of importance. With his family, he belongs to the United Presbyterian church. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Coulter: Charles, of Jamestown, Ohio, who married Louise Barber and has three children, Robert, Eleanor and Mary Louise; Alvin, residing in Oxford township, who married Grace Bryant, and has one child, a daughter, Helen Lucile; Elsie, who married Marion McQuiston, of near Morning Sun, and has two children, Dorothea and Elizabeth; and Alice, who married George Gravitt, and has one child, Emmet Charles.

David Cox, son of John H. and Sara A. Cox, was born in Sharon, Pa., September 24, 1896. His parents, both of Southampton, England, were married April 7, 1866, and, coming to this country, located in Sharon, where the father became connected with the rolling mill. With his family, Mr. Cox moved to Middletown, Ohio, about fourteen years ago, and took a position as heater with the American Rolling Mill company. He is an adept in the rolling mill business, and one of the best informed among the men at the local plant, and many who now occupy the best positions in the mill were under his tutelage. There were eight children in the Cox family, one of whom, Eunice, born in England, died in infancy in that country; the others, all in Middletown: Flora, now Mrs. Earl Brate; John Henry, David, Omar, Raymond, Clarice and Norman. David, the subject of this sketch, graduated from the Middletown High school in 1914, after which he was for two years connected with the office of the rolling mill in a clerical capacity, when he enlisted in U. S. Aero Squadron No. 227. He was sent to France and there passed a year in active service before receiving a discharge. The young man is a splendid type of true American manhood, and his friends predict for him a most successful career. The Coxes own a splendid home on Crawford street. In religion he is an Episcopalian and in politics, liberal.

John C. F. Craig, D. D. S. The dental surgeons of Butler county include as fine a body of men as are to be found anywhere in the Miami valley. They have taken the present exhaustive course which has reduced the care, preservation and restoration of the teeth and the treatment of the various disorders attendant upon them to an exact and unfailing science. Among those and one who has built up a large practice and firmly established himself in the confidence of the community is Dr. John C. F. Craig, of Venice. Doctor Craig was born in Crosby township, Hamilton county, Ohio, February 12, 1884, a son of John C. F. and Sarah Jane (Wood) Craig. The former was born near New Baltimore, Ohio, a son of Aaron Craig, the latter's wife having been Mary Francis Scull. Sarah Jane (Wood)

Craig was a daughter of James and Sarah (Vincent) Wood, who came from England. After their marriage the parents of Doctor Craig lived for a time at Cliptown, Ohio, then went to New Baltimore, and eventually settled in Colerain township, Hamilton county, where they still reside on their valuable farm near Bowling Green. Their children were as follows: Aaron J.; Dr. John C. F., of this notice; Carrie Belle, the wife of George Gausmann; and Edith, a school teacher. Dr. J. C. F. Craig received his early education in the public schools of Colerain township, and following his graduation from the Hamilton High school in 1904, took a business course at Joiner's Business college, Columbus, Ohio. He then began his dental studies as an attendant of the Cincinnati Dental college, where he was graduated in 1908, and in addition to this completed a course in the Cincinnati College of Embalming and a course at the National Institute of Pharmacy, at Chicago. Doctor Craig began the practice of his profession at Venice in 1908, and has continued therein with constantly growing success, having attracted a large and representative clientele and succeeding in establishing himself firmly in the confidence of the public and of his fellow-practitioners. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, is a Republican in politics, holds membership in the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and, with Mrs. Craig, belongs to the United Brethren church. During the period of the war, he was a member of the Dental Reserve Corps, and contributed a great deal of professional service free of charge in preparing enlisted men for proper service. He was also a generous supporter of all war activities, and showed himself a thoroughly loyal and public-spirited citizen. Doctor Craig was united in marriage October 5, 1915, at Hamilton, Ohio, to Hazel, the estimable daughter of Charles and Ora (Hughes) Emrick, of Colerain township, Hamilton county, well-known and highly respected agricultural people of that community. Like her husband, Mrs. Craig has entered actively into the life of Venice, and also like him has a wide circle of friends here.

N. A. Cramer. Investigation reveals that a large percentage of the prosperous farmers of Ohio today started as farm hands and by close application to duties at all times and practicing economies which the average city-bred young man would not care to experience, saved sufficient money in the course of years to place them in position to either lease or purchase outright a farm. Also it might be stated that those who found it more convenient for their pocketbook to undertake a lease showed that they were of the mettle of which the agricultural interests of the country have good reason to be proud and it did not require operation of leased farm by these energetic young men very long before they were prepared to purchase outright. In this respect we have the spectacle of the self-made prosperous farmer as well as the self-made city man. And it is interesting to note that the reason each gives for his success is that he never neglected to take advantage of all opportunities which might present to better his position in life and also was aware of the fact that hard work is a determining factor in making for the goal of success. N. A. Cramer of Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio,

affords admirable example of what can be accomplished by the young man who takes up agriculture as a pursuit with the determination to climb to the top in this field of endeavor. Starting as a farm hand at the age of twenty years, today at the age of sixty years he owns a 104-acre farm in Liberty township, which is fully improved and which is increasing in value encouragingly each year. Born in New Jersey, in 1861, he was the son of John and Ellen Cramer. He migrated to Clermont county, Ohio, when a youngster and received his schooling in the public schools of that county. He remained in that community until he reached his twentieth year when he moved to Liberty township and obtained employment as a farm hand at $18 per month. He worked as a farm hand for a number of years. During these years that he was serving his novitiate for the more responsible duties of owner and overseer of a farm to come in future days he was recognized as a young man who was always prepared to give the best that was in him in order to further the interests of his employer. No work on the farm was too humble for him to perform and he went about the duties allotted him with the same feeling of responsibility as though he were looking after his personal affairs solely. It is also interesting to note that the same self-prescribed rules of conduct which characterized his activities when he was an unassuming farm hand govern him today in the operation of his own farm. After working on the farm of Frank Hughes for some time the opportunity to purchase the 104-acre farm which he is at present operating arose in 1906. In the meantime he married Miss Hannah Hazleton, daughter of Stephen and Sarah Hazleton of Clermont county, Ohio, and four children were the result of this union: Virgil, who married Miss Nell Brate, and who is the father of two children, Myron and Gerald; Owen, who married Mary Brate, and is the father of two children, Darrell and Eugene; Harry, who married Louise McCleary, and is the father of one child, Don; and Herbert, who is single and lives with his parents. Besides general farming, Mr. Cramer is engaged quite extensively in stock raising. Improvements have been made on his farm from time to time which have represented a large outlay of money. He is a Democrat and at one time was road supervisor of Liberty township. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

Mrs. Mary Crane. No family in the country can present a more honorable record than that which bears the name of Crane. This is an old English family which can trace its history back through an unbroken line to the year 1637, at which time Jasper Crane and his wife Alice came to America and settled at New Haven, N. J., where they reared a family. Among their children was a son, Jasper, who became prominent in the affairs of the colony and was a member of the committee of safety to protect the New Haven colony against DeRuyter, the Dutch admiral. Jasper Crane also served with distinction in the colonial legislature and left the impress of his strong individuality upon the material growth of the town in which his home was made. Any person who can worthily claim a Crane as an ancestor will have no trouble in proving eligibility to membership in the Society of Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the Amer-

Wm. C. Crane

ican Revolution or the Sons of the American Revolution. Stephen Crane, son of Jasper Crane, jr., was born and reared in New Jersey, and like his father became influential in matters of public import and a leader among his fellow-citizens. He married and reared a family, the eldest of his children being John Crane. John Crane, jr., second son of the above John Crane, was the father of a number of children, the third of whom was given his own name. Like him, he stood high in the confidence and esteem of the public. He married and became the head of a well-known and influential family, and it was through his son, Elijah, that the branch in Ohio came into being. Stephen Crane, son of Elijah, spent his life in New Jersey as a tiller of the soil and two of his sons, Isaac and Joseph, also became agriculturists, the former owning for many years a fine estate of 178 acres near the city of New Haven. In the year 1837, William B. Crane moved his family from New Jersey to Butler county and settled on a farm near Middletown, where he remained until his death in August, 1854, his wife following him in death three years later. William Conklin Crane, the eldest son of Mulford and Rhoda (Potter) Crane, was born December 19, 1857, and spent his entire life at Middletown, with the exception of nine years, 1865 to 1874, during which time he was a resident of Kossuth, Ia. In February, 1882, he entered the employ of the P. J. Sorg Tobacco company, and in 1884 was promoted to the position of foreman of the pressroom. In January, 1890, he was appointed assistant to the superintendent of the plant and in 1906, was appointed manager of the American Tobacco company for the State of Ohio. Mr. Crane was married December 5, 1883, to Mary L., daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth F. Blackburn, her father being an Englishman and her mother a direct descendant of the old Bullock family of Virginia. To this union there were born four children: Roy, born June 11, 1885; Paul J., born April 5, 1887; William Ross, born February 27, 1893; and Mary Elizabeth, born May 28, 1894. The death of the father of these children, which occurred June 17, 1913, was greatly deplored by all the citizens of Middletown, for he was a citizen who had done much for the public good and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. William Ross Crane was educated at the Miami Military college, at Germantown, where he received the highest rank, that of cadet major, and subsequently attended Yale university. He entered the United States service during the great war and was sent to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, where he received his commission, and went overseas with the 83d Division, later being transferred to the 4th Division. He went "over the top" three times, and October 4, 1918, was wounded. He married Margaret, daughter of Mark Thomas, and they have one son: William Ross, jr. Paul J. Crane was educated at Middletown High school and Ohio State university, and entered the United States army, being sent to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, where he received his commission. He was made training officer at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., where he remained during the period of the war. Roy Crane, who is connected with the Hup Motor Car company, at Detroit, Mich., married Edith Muthert, of Middletown. Mary Elizabeth Crane, who was educated at Notre Dame,

Center and Byrn Mawr, is the wife of C. E. McCoy, metallurgical chemist at the American Rolling Mill company, Middletown. The mother of these children is a woman of very brilliant attainments, belongs to several literary clubs, and takes a very active part in the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which she is a member. Recently she sold her beautiful home on Fourth street to the Knights of Columbus, to be used for a clubhouse, the consideration being $30,000, and is contemplating the erection of a smaller home.

Allie Crist. Among the men of the Miami valley whose progressive spirit and large ideas have given them prominence and prestige, Allie Crist is a noteworthy example. This well-known resident of the Hamilton district of Butler county is one of the largest landholders and stock growers in his part of the Miami valley, and is likewise prominent as a man of much benevolence and public spirit. He was born in what is known as the Crist district, near Seven Mile, Butler county, a son of Allison B. and Phoebe C. (Maddox) Crist, and is of Revolutionary descent, his great-grandfather, John Crist, having fought as a soldier of the patriot army, was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, and which wound later caused his death. During the early 1800's this soldier immigrated to Brookville, Ind., whence the family came to Ohio. Allison B. Crist, the father of Allie Crist, who was born in Brookville, Ind., was one of the large landholders of Butler county, and an extensive farmer, and his son was reared to prepare himself for an agricultural career. His education was secured in the public schools, and he has followed in the footsteps of his father, both as a progressive farmer and as an accumulator of property. At this time he is the owner of 2,200 acres of land, of which 825 acres are located in the original Symmes' purchase south of Hamilton. Mr. Crist is a general farmer, but has made a specialty of raising stock, and in this department is one of the leaders of the Miami valley. Annually he raises 1,000 head of hogs and from 500 to 600 head of cattle. In various directions he has shown his progressive spirit, which is reflected in all matters pertaining to his farm, and in the fact that he was the man to introduce the high silo in Ohio. His home is one of the palatial country residences of the valley, and his various other buildings are proportionate in value and attractiveness, while his equipment of all kinds is of the latest and most highly improved manufacture. In all his business relations, his reputation for integrity has remained inviolate, and his public spirit has never been questioned, his support being given to all worthy civic movements. He is known as a man of great benevolence, and recently was the donator of a valuable piece of property for church purposes. His personal aspirations have never included a desire for public office. Mr. Crist married Miss Beulah Early, of West Elkton, and they are the parents of seven children: Cecelia, deceased; and Thelma, Roy, Ray, Hazel, Marie and Elwood, who reside with their parents.

Francis M. Crist. The vocation of agriculture has always claimed the attention of Francis M. Crist, of Wayne township, Butler county, and through many years of industry and intelligently

ALLIE CRIST AND FAMILY

FRANK M. CRIST AND FAMILY

applied methods of procedure he has become one of the substantial citizens and large landholders of his locality. Mr. Crist was born on his father's farm in Wayne township, October 17, 1864, a son of Allison B. and Phoebe Crist, the former born near Brookville, Ind., and the latter in Wayne township. John Crist, the grandfather of Francis M., was an early settler of Franklin county, Ind., and for many years carried on farming in the vicinity of Brookville. A. B. Crist grew up on his father's farm, and at the outbreak of the Civil war left his wife and family in Ohio, to which he had removed and enlisted in an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment and served with the 100-day men. His name will be found on the roster of soldiers at Hamilton. At the expiration of service with Uncle Sam he took up his residence at Somerville, Butler county, Ohio, where he entered into partnership with a Mr. Davis in the pork packing business. Through this business he received sufficient funds to make his first payment on an eighty-acre farm in Wayne township and later added to this by purchase until he was the owner of nearly 1,000 acres. This included the home farm and land owned in Butler and Preble counties. He was one of the progressive men of his section, and in 1878 erected what was at that time one of the largest and finest brick residences in this part of the country. The 200,000 bricks used in its construction were all burned on the home premises, and the residence throughout is finished in white walnut. Mr. Crist was one of the highly esteemed men of his community and when he died, in 1908, his locality lost one of its valuable and public-spirited men. Both he and his wife, who died in 1898, were members of the Friends church, and were laid to rest at West Elkton. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom eight are living at this time: John, a resident of Middletown; Mrs. Luella Collom, of West Elkton; Francis M.; Martha, who is unmarried and a resident of West Elkton; Emma, also single and a resident of Pittsburg, Pa.; Eva, the wife of Thomas Hicks; Rev. Elwood, a minister at Defiance, Ohio; and Allie B., who is engaged in farming four miles south of Hamilton. Francis M. Crist was educated at the Pleasant Grove school, after leaving which he took up farming as one of his father's assistants. He was married in 1886 to Nora M., daughter of Nathan Mendenhall of Wayne township, and following his marriage took up his residence one-half mile from his present place in Wayne township. After two years he bought of his father 128 acres which is his present home and in 1909 bought of the heirs 261 acres, which is in a magnificent state of cultivation, and the equipment of which includes all modern conveniences, improvements and facilities of country life. Mr. Crist has been very successful in the conduct of his operations, and in addition to the home place is the owner of 177 acres where his son lives, ninety-seven acres just south of the home place, 235 acres on the West Elkton pike in Wayne township and 240 acres in Preble county. His standing as a man of integrity is assured and during his long residence in this part of Ohio he has gained and held many friends. His contributions to war activities were generous and his public spirit has been evidenced by his support of constructive movements. Politically Mr. Crist is a Republi-

can, and his religion and that of his family is the Quaker faith. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crist: Homer, a graduate of the West Elkton High school and of a commercial college, and a farmer on the West Elkton pike, who married Myrtle Lane and has one child, Vera Louise; Arthur, who attended high school and is now a farmer in Wayne township, married Pearl Cook and has one child, Beatrice P.; Grace, the wife of Rev. James Ervin, a Methodist minister and evangelist, with two sons, Wesley and Paul; she having spent two years at Oxford seminary and Wesleyan one year; Florence, who attended Oberlin college, and is the widow of Dr. William Cumson, a dental practitioner, who died in October, 1918, with one daughter, Theo; and Alma, a high school graduate, who married Raymond Southern, a farmer near West Elkton. Mrs. Crist's parents, Nathan and Elizabeth Mendenhall, with their family lived in Butler county. The family consisted of four boys and two girls: Louise, Harriett, Carie, Edwin, Curtis and Mrs. Crist. Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall are deceased, the mother dying in 1911; the father in 1917.

John H. Crout, a prominent, substantial and worthy farmer of Madison township, has been a resident of this community all of his life, and has established himself firmly in an enviable position as to material things, while in public confidence he stands high because of a straightforward and convincing integrity which has characterized his entire career. He belongs to one of the old and honored families of Butler county, and was born in Madison township, May 8, 1856, a son of Henry and Rachael (Bake) Crout, the former born in the same township, December 27, 1825, and the latter here also February 17, 1829. The father grew up in the vicinity of Middletown, where he was reared amid pioneer surroundings, and was one of the men who assisted in the early development of the county, having cleared the farm where his son, William, now resides, and having made a comfortable home for his family. Doubtless he would have achieved a large amount of success, for he was a very capable and intelligent man, but he was called by death when most men are still at their prime, passing away November 6, 1866, when less than forty-one years of age. He was a Democrat in his political views, but cared little for politics aside from supporting the candidates of his party. His religious faith was that of the United Brethren church, to which Mrs. Crout, who survived him until April 3, 1894, also belonged. They were the parents of three sons: Leander, who died December 26, 1853; John H., of this notice; and William H., a sketch of whose career will be found on another page of this work. John H. Crout's advantages for an education were somewhat limited, owing to the fact that he was but ten years of age at the time of his father's death, and that from that time forward he was expected to work hard in order that he might contribute his share to the family income. However, he managed from time to time to attend the district school, and, being quick and intelligent, with a retentive mind, succeeded in gaining even a better schooling than many of his comrades who had much better opportunities. He lived at home until his marriage, in 1900, to Lydia A. Gephart, of Madison township, a daughter of Wil-

MR. AND MRS. A. B. CRIST, SR.
RESIDENCE OF F. M. CRIST
MR. AND MRS. NATHAN MENDENHALL

liam and Hannah (Schlobig) Gephart, the former of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Gephart are farming people and still make their home in Madison township. Their children were: Valentine, who met an accidental death September 28, 1883; Lydia A., now Mrs. Crout; Mary Catherine, who married John Berg; Margaret, who married William Van Holt; Hannah, who is deceased; Clara, who married David Bell; Lizzie, who married Harry Hoffman; and Willie, who died at the age of ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Crout are the parents of one son: Grover, working the farm and a well known young man of Madison township, who married Bessie Thompson, a daughter of William and Mary Thompson of Miltonville. Mrs. Crout had two children: John, born in Warren county, December 27, 1887; and Jake, born in the same county, July 22, 1889, married in 1916, Edith Stultz, of Knox county, Ind., and has one son, Jacob G. Mr. Crout has always engaged in farming, has always worked industriously and faithfully, and has always managed to make his labors pay him well in the gaining of prosperity. He bought his present farm of eighty acres in Madison township not long after his marriage, this being the old Jacob Bake place. It is in a good state of cultivation, yielding large crops of grain and tobacco, and Mr. Crout has also been successful in the breeding of mixed live stock. In addition to his home place he farms rented land. He votes the Democratic ticket and attends the United Brethren church. He is widely known in the county, where his friends are numbered by the list of his acquaintances.

William H. Crout. The career of William H. Crout adds another to the many illustrations Butler county has furnished of the results obtained by intelligence, industry and perseverance when applied to the securing of agricultural prosperity under the favoring conditions which have, for many years, existed in this part of the Miami valley. Mr. Crout was born on the old Crout homestead, which he now occupies, in section 10, Madison township, and is a son of Henry and Rachael (Bake) Crout. Peter Crout, the paternal grandfather of William H., was born in Pennsylvania and became an early settler of Butler county, where he built the old gristmill at Amanda and followed the trades of millwright and carpenter. Both he and his wife died near Middletown. Henry Crout was born in Highland county, Ohio, was educated in the home schools, and followed farming all his life. As a young man he located in Madison township, in section 10, and for some years engaged in farming the property now owned by his son, although he was not given the opportunity of achieving marked success, as he was called by death in 1866, when still comparatively a young man. He was a member of the United Brethren church, as was also his wife, who survived him until the spring of 1894. She was a daughter of Jacob and Mary Bake, natives of Pennsylvania who came early to Butler county, where Mr. Bake cleared a great deal of land. He was also widely famed in this neighborhood as a hunter in the early days, and one of his favorite pastimes was the shooting of deer by moonlight. He died at the age of ninety-three years and his wife, aged eighty-seven, at West Middletown, they having reared a large

family, of whom four are now living: Eliza, Emma, William and Alice. The educational advantages of William H. Crout were limited to the public schools. His elder brother, Leander, had died when he was six years of age, and his other brother, John, now a farmer of Madison township, and himself assisted their father in the work of development, during their spare hours. After the elder man's death, there was little chance for schooling, and when he was only twelve years of age Mr. Crout began working in the woods at clearing, for which his wages were twenty-five cents per day. He remained with his mother, caring for her and contributing to her support, until her death, in the spring of 1894, and October 2 of the same year was married to Miss Della Bell, of Darke county, Ohio, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Barnhart) Bell, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. Mr. Bell was a carpenter by trade and followed that vocation in Darke county until his death in February, 1912, his wife passing away in 1914. They were members of the Albright church and the parents of ten children: Levi, of Darke county; Emanuel, unmarried; William, a farmer near Springfield; Mollie, of Michigan City, Ind.; David, a farmer near Seven Mile; Fina, married Charles Hetzler, of Miamisburg; Ella, of Montgomery county, Ohio; Flora, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Clara, who died when young; and Della, now Mrs. Crout. Four sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crout: James, an inspector at the American Rolling Mill company, Middletown; and Jesse, Clarence and Roy, all at home on the farm. Mr. Crout has always been a farmer on the old home place, where he now has fifty-two acres under a high state of cultivation, and carries on a general farming business, making somewhat of a specialty of grain and tobacco. He has never aspired for office, although he is a good and public-spirited citizen, but is a staunch Democrat and supports the candidates of his party loyally. With Mrs. Crout and his sons, he belongs to the United Brethren church, with the members of which he has numerous warm ties of friendship.

G. M. Cummins, M. D., is a typical Ohioan and physician and has good reason to congratulate himself on the State of his birth, for it has been kind to him, although not beyond the measure of his deserts. He was born at Hamilton in 1876 and received his early education in the schools of Butler county, later attending country schools in Indiana, to which state his parents removed when he was a child. Graduating from high school in 1896, he prosecuted his medical studies at the Medical college of Ohio, and was graduated therefrom with his degree in 1900, the first several months of his practice being at Dayton. In November of the same year he established an office at Hamilton, and, through his able qualities as a physician and his stable, popular traits as a man, has continued his progress both in the development of a professional reputation and a profitable medical business. Doctor Cummins married Mary Clyne, and they are the parents of one son: George C. Since leaving college, Doctor Cummins has been a close student and has done much post-graduate work. He belongs to the Butler

County Medical, the Ohio State Medical, and the Union District Medical societies and also to the American Medical association, and for several years served as president of the county organization. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. He possesses a fine library, embracing both medical and general literature, and personally is a cultured, energetic, able and progressive physician and gentleman.

Mrs. Mary Cummins. Among other claims upon the consideration of her fellow townspeople Mrs. Mary Cummins presents that of being one of the financially strong and the socially popular element of Middletown, where the greater part of her life has been spent, and where she is known as one of the most intelligent, well informed and tactful residents of the city. She is the widow of the late Garrett Cummins, who was born on the homestead place of the Cummins family, on Franklin road, not far from Middletown, in 1850. Mr. Cummins was one of the highly respected farmers of his day and passed his life in operations on the homestead, which is a tract of 155 acres secured from the United States Government by the Van Ness family. There were six children in the family: William and Gertrude, who are deceased; Georgia, who is the wife of George Joslyn, of Youngstown, Ohio; Dr. L. C., a practicing dentist of Cincinnati; Minnie, who is the wife of Chris Bielstein of Youngstown. Mrs. Mary Cummins is the possessor of the deed to the property on which she now lives, dated 1798, and in which year it was entered by Garrett Van Ness. Gen. William Henry Harrison (later President), was a guest of Van Ness and camped with his troops on this historic place, the present home of Mrs. Cummins.

Mrs. Cummins is a familiar figure in the religious and social life of the vicinity of Middletown, being a welcome guest at many local functions. She has some very valuable historical treasures, among which are numbered a mahogany highboy used in the first hotel in Cincinnati; a highboy made by General Marks in 1774, and which now looks almost like new; a mahogany secretary which was floated down the Ohio river and up the Miami on a log raft to her home; a History of the Miami and Erie Canal; a Gilbert Stuart portrait of a Knickerbocker Dutchman; a portrait of an old man painted by Beard nearly one hundred years ago; a deed on a grant for a New Jersey plantation written on sheepskin, dated 1732 and 1735, bearing the royal signature of George II of England, and on which Washington camped, and is now the site of Princeton College; deed for home signed by President Madison; English mezzotint treated so as to appear an oil painting, given by Nicholas Longworth, Sr.; badge worn at President Harrison's inaugural dinner, satin, 2 by 6 inches, with Harrison's portrait and cabin; satin badge 2 by 6 inches, worn at Dayton Barbecue day, where the Republican party was born; an imported silken shawl listed at a fair many years ago as being one hundred and thirty-five years old and still in a beautiful state of preservation; knee buckle worn by Stephen Hopkins while signing the Declaration of Independence; a signer's copy of the Declaration of Independence, almost fallen to pieces and yellow with age; a wine glass used by Washington;

peculiar earrings nearly two hundred years old; a paper announcing the death of Andrew Jackson; party invitations nearly one hundred years old; real colonial glassware; and a tapestry bed spread with the date 1832 woven in the corner. She also possesses oil portraits of great historic value. One is of Colonel Hendrickson, a step-grandfather of Garrett Cummins, a delegate to the National Convention which nominated William Henry Harrison for the presidency, and himself the man who presented the General's name before that distinguished body. Another is of William Cummins, who was of old Revolutionary stock; and still another of John McCracken, a paper maker by trade, and builder of the first paper mill in the United States, which was located in Cove Gap in the Cumberland mountains, the entire Gap property being owned by the McCrackens. Water power was used in the operation of this mill and slave labor was employed, the product being made by hand. When the Mason and Dixon line was definitely established and determined, the slaves were freed and the mill was converted into a flour mill. John McCracken was a journalist, and as a schoolmate of James Buchanan became his lifelong friend. Through his journalistic efforts he was largely instrumental in securing the presidential nomination for Buchanan and was likewise active in the work which resulted in his election.

Miss Jessie Cummins, daughter of Mrs. Cummins and a graduate of her home town high school and of Virginia college, is a young lady very much interested in church work, being a member of the Baptist church of Middletown of which she has been librarian and also secretary of the mission work, and for her faithful attendance has received diplomas and other prizes. Another of Mrs. Cummins' daughters, Minnie, is now Mrs. Bielstein and lives at Youngstown, Ohio. She is a graduate of the Middletown high school and Miami University, at which institution she was prominent in athletics, excelling in indoor baseball. She is also a graduate of Virginia college. Her husband is deputy sheriff of his county, and they have one daughter, Helen Van Ness. Georgia, another daughter of Mrs. Cummins, also lives in Youngstown, and is the wife of Mr. George Joslyn. They have two children, Thomas and Garrett.

Harry H. Cunningham. Nearly a century has rolled around since the first settlement of the Cunningham family in Ohio, and during that time its members have been leading citizens and prosperous agriculturists of Butler county. Of the men who worthily represent this name today, one who has made a success of his operations is Harry H. Cunningham, of Wayne township. Mr. Cunningham was born in this township, January 2, 1880, a son of Andrew and Sarah Jane (Weaver) Cunningham. The founder of the family in the United States was the great-grandfather of Harry H. Cunningham, Samuel F. Cunningham, who was born in Ireland in 1770, and came from Conway, Ireland, to America about the year 1795, locating at Trenton, N. J. He was there married in 1800 to Mary Smith, and took up his residence near Trenton, N. J. In 1820 he came to Trenton, Butler county, Ohio, where he passed the rest of his life in farming. He was the father of six children: James;

JOHN WEAVER

ESTHER WEAVER

ANDREW CUNNINGHAM

HARRY H. CUNNINGHAM AND FAMILY

Robert, who went to Illinois; George, who settled at Pittsburg, Pa.; and three daughters. James Cunningham, the grandfather of Harry H., went, in about 1860, to Illinois, where he passed the rest of his life as an agriculturist and died in 1891 at the age of eighty-eight years. July 28, 1829, he married Ruth Smith, who was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1801, and died in Wayne township, Butler county, in 1854. She was a daughter of James Smith, born in 1763 in Cumberland county, Pa., who settled at the mouth of Four Mile creek, in St. Clair township, Butler county, and died in 1834. James and Ruth (Smith) Cunningham were the parents of six children: William, born in 1830; Elizabeth, born in 1831; Isabella, born in 1833; James, born in 1834; Andrew, born in 1836; and David K., born in 1838. Andrew Cunningham, the father of Harry H., was born near Seven Mile, on the banks of Cotton Run creek, Butler county, October 3, 1836. He was married May 6, 1860, to Sarah Jane Weaver, who was born near Jacksonboro, Ohio, in 1842. Following their union they settled in Wayne township, where they passed the remainder of their lives, Mrs. Cunningham passing away in 1884 and her husband in 1914, and both being buried at Elk creek. They were the parents of the following children: Mary M., Martin W., Esther, Sarah E., John A., William J., Harry H. and Edith. The history of the Weaver family in America is a long and honorable one. The direct immigrant ancestor of Harry H. Cunningham on his mother's side was Frederick Weaver, who came from Germany and in 1730, lived in Lower Sancon township, Northampton county, Pa. He was a member of the Lutheran congregation and the Weavers in direct descent from him were of the Lutheran faith, up to and including the grandfather of Harry H. Cunningham. Frederick Weaver had five children: Jacob; George; Michael, the ancestor of Mr. Cunningham; and two daughters, one of whom married Arnold Everhart. Eight of the grandchildren of Frederick Weaver fought as soldiers of the Revolution, and most of them were in the service under Gen. George Washington. The record of one of these patriots, Jacob Weaver, is as follows: Jacob Weaver, Northampton county, Pa., ensign 3d Pennsylvania Battalion, April 22, 1776; taken prisoner at Fort Washington, November, 16, 1776; exchanged December 12, 1776; was retained as captain of company to rank of independent company, January 13, 1777; annexed to the 10th Pennsylvania, November 7, 1777; retired in January, 1781. About 1750 Michael Weaver married Catherine Snyder, a native of the same county, and they had six children: John; Henry; Michael; Philip, the great-grandfather of Harry H. Cunningham; a daughter who married Thomas Coochis and settled at Darrtown, Ohio, in 1805; and a daughter who married Mr. Landis, and whose descendants are still found numerously in Butler county. Philip Weaver, the great-grandfather of Harry H. Cunningham, was born in Northampton county, Pa., in 1765, and died in 1835. He was married August 11, 1787, to Catherine Hush, who was born in 1767, in Northumberland county, Pa., and died in 1845, in Butler county. They were the parents of four children, Henry, Michael, Catherine and John, all born in Pennsylvania, and all dying in Butler county,

Ohio, and were buried in Elk Creek cemetery, which has been used as a burial place by this family for over a century and is still the resting place of the younger descendants. The order of births and deaths follow: Henry and Michael were born in Lancaster, Lancaster county, Pa., the former born in 1789, and died in 1875. The latter was born in 1792, and died in 1813. Catherine was born in 1795, about ten miles north of Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa., and died in Butler county in 1865. Catherine Weaver married Samuel Snyder, of Madison township, Butler county, Ohio. Philip Weaver, Mr. Cunningham's great-grandfather, was a drummer boy during the Revolutionary war, under General Washington, when he was but twelve years of age. By the close of the struggle, however, he was able to bear arms, and subsequently received a pension for the services which he rendered as a soldier of the line. In 1808 Philip Weaver and his family migrated from eastern Northampton county, Pa., over the Alleghany mountains in the old-fashioned way, by wagon to Pittsburg. There the family and household goods were placed on one raft and the livestock on another and thus the little party and its worldly effects traveled down the Ohio river to Cincinnati. They then followed the Miami river as far north as Hamilton, and in 1809 settled on a farm in Wayne township. Henry Weaver, of the above family, served in the War of 1812. After the surrender of Hull the whole country was in a state of commotion and the necessary troops to keep up the defenses of the western frontier were drafted, among the men thus chosen for service being Henry Weaver. His time was originally set for sixty days, but he was out only twenty-six days, under General Winchester, at Fort Defiance, when he was relieved. John Weaver, the grandfather of Harry H. Cunningham, was born ten miles north of Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa., and ten miles south of the Weaver homestead, located in Lower Sancon township, Northampton county, Pa., in 1799, and died in Butler county, in 1880. He was married October 14, 1824, to Esther Clark, who was born near Trenton, N. J., in 1805, and died in 1873. They became the parents of five sons and five daughters: Jacob, born in 1825, who died in infancy; Catherine, born in 1826; Elizabeth, born in 1829; Mary Ann, born in 1831; Henry, born in 1833; Philip, born in 1835; John C., born in 1837; Martin, born in 1840; Sarah Jane, born in 1842; and Eliza Ellen. Of these children, Sarah Jane Weaver married Andrew Cunningham, and their eight children were as follows: Mary Ann, born in 1861, who is deceased; Martin W., born in 1863; Esther, born in 1867, who is deceased; Sarah E., born in 1870; John A., born in 1873; William J., born in 1876; Harry H., born in 1880; and Edith, born in 1882. Harry H. Cunningham received a common school education in Wayne township and worked on the home farm, being identified therewith until 1916, when he came to his present property in Wayne township. This is a tract of seventy-eight acres, which he has put under a high state of cultivation and in the management and operation of which Mr. Cunningham has shown himself a capable and industrious agriculturist. The manner in which he has conducted his business transactions has created a

favorable impression upon his associates and his standing is correspondingly high in commercial circles. With the members of his family he holds membership in the Presbyterian church. He has always faithfully discharged the obligations and responsibilities of citizenship, and during the war period was a generous contributor to all activities. Mr. Cunningham married Eleanor May, daughter of William Rush, of Henry county, Ohio, November 18, 1909, and to this union there have come two children: Fay, born October 22, 1910, who died in infancy; and Floyd, born in Henry county, Ohio, February 4, 1913.

Elmer D. Curryer. Since entering upon his active career as a Butler county agriculturist and land owner, Elmer D. Curryer has lent dignity and stability to his vocation, and thus has maintained and even added to the excellent reputation gained by the members of his family here. He is accounted one of the men of ability and resource who have made the most of their opportunities, and thus stands high in public opinion in Lemon township, where his property is located. Mr. Curryer was born on the old homestead, a part of which he now occupies, section 10, Lemon township, February 5, 1877, a son of Ira H. Curryer, a native of Shelby county, O., and a grandson of Daniel Curryer, also of that county. Ira H. Curryer came to Butler county as a young man, settling near Bethany, where he was married to Mary Ann Wyckoff, of Middletown. After their marriage they settled on the old Wyckoff place for one year and then moved to section 10, Lemon township, where they passed the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in November, 1906, aged sixty-six years, while the father passed away in January, 1911, aged sixty-eight years. Mr. Curryer erected a new residence and remodeled the barn, in addition to which he made many other valuable improvements. He was a breeder of Poland China hogs, Shorthorn cattle and a good grade of horses, and was considered a good judge of all kinds of live stock, as well as a business man of superior ability and sound integrity. In politics a staunch Democrat, he served on the election board, the school board and in township offices, and his public record was an excellent one. With his family, he attended the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Curryer were the parents of six children: Clara, who married George McLandless, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Nellie, the widow of Charles Harkrader, of Monroe, Ohio; Lulu, who married Judge Walter S. Harlan, of Hamilton; Elmer D.; Edith, who is single and resides at Hamilton; and Roy C., of Middletown, who married Mayme Barker. Elmer D. Curryer attended the public schools of Butler county, and after a preparatory course, with the expectation of following a professional career, entered the State university as a dental student. However, after one and one-half years, his health failed, and he was advised by his physician to return to the farm, a course which he forthwith pursued. He continued in business with his father until the elder man's death, at which time he bought fifty acres of the homestead, which he now has in a high state of cultivation. In addition to carrying on a general farming business, he is engaged extensively and successfully in the breeding of Hol-

stein cattle, Chester White hogs and Belgian Draft horses, and in each department of his work has shown thorough knowledge of the vocation to which he has dedicated his career. Like his father, he is a man of the strictest integrity, and his reputation is an excellent one in commercial transactions. March 29, 1911, Mr. Curryer was united in marriage with Bertha May Compton, of Lemon township, a daughter of William Compton, a sketch of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Curryer have had one son, William Compton, who died in infancy. Mrs. Curryer is a member of the United Presbyterian church at Monroe, and her husband is a supporter of religious movements. He is a Mason, belonging to Blue Lodge, No. 90, at Middletown, and Mrs. Curryer is identified with several ladies' fraternal and social societies. In politics Mr. Curryer is a Democrat, and has served as a member of the election board, as well as showing his interest in civic and public affairs in other ways.

Samuel O. Danner. Employed as a rougher at the American Rolling Mill company's plant since his arrival at Middletown, Samuel O. Danner has worked his way into the good graces of his company through industry and faithful performance of the duties of his position, and at the same time has gained the confidence and good will of a large number of the members of the army of workers who form the integral human cogs in this mighty industrial machine. Mr. Danner is a native of the city of Muncie, Ind., and was born March 4, 1875, a son of Thomas and Charlotte (George) Danner. His father, who was for many years an Indiana agriculturist, fought as a soldier during the Civil war, fighting for the Union as a member of an Indiana volunteer infantry regiment. After the war he returned to farming, but eventually became a foreman in rolling mills and was thus employed for a period of seventeen years. He finally retired on a well-earned competence, and he and his wife are now surrounded by every comfort in the evening of life. They have been the parents of six children: Samuel O., of this review; John J., a resident of Muncie, Ind.; Rose, who is the wife of Albert Bailey, of Middletown; William Danner; Mrs. Wm. Miles, and Mrs. Melvina Watkins, whose husband died during the influenza epidemic during the fall of 1918. Samuel O. Danner was reared on the home farm and received his training and education in an agricultural community, but the tilling of the soil did not appeal to him as a vocation in life, and he accordingly joined his father in working in the rolling mills. For some years he was employed at various places, but eventually located at Middletown, where he became a rougher in the rolling mills of the American Rolling Mill company, and has since been so employed. He is a steady and reliable workman and one who enjoys the respect of his employers and the friendship of his fellow workmen. Mr. Danner, some time after coming to Middletown, erected a comfortable and attractive home on Eleventh street, where he and his family reside in the midst of every modern comfort. Mr. Danner is a Baptist, and exercises his right of franchise as a supporter of the principles and candidates of the Republican party. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of

Pythias, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Knights of the Maccabees, in all of which he is deservedly popular. September 26, 1903, he was united in matrimony with Daisy Langston, born February 9, 1881, at Indianapolis, Ind., a daughter of William and Jennie (Lomax) Langston, English people who are still living at the Indiana metropolis. There were four children in the Langston family: Mrs. Danner; Mrs. Ralph H. Zellar, of Franklin, Ohio; William, of Ludington, Mich.; and Myrtle, deceased, who was the wife of William George. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Danner, namely: Harold O., Donald, Thomas Arthur, Helen Virginia, Paul Eugene, and Ruth Jeanette. Mr. Langston, like Mr. Danner the elder, fought as a soldier of the Union during the dark days of the struggle between the forces of the North and South.

Almond Davis, deceased, was born in Union township, Butler county, Oho, September 27, 1854, the son of Almond, sr., and Maria (Herr) Davis. Almond Davis was born in Vermont, son of Moody and Rebecca (Morgan) Davis. Moody Davis came with his family across the river in St. Clair township, where for a long time he operated a mill. Almond Davis, sr., lived in Liberty township, where he followed the vocation of a farmer. There were seven children in the family: Almond, jr., subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, Mrs. Elliott, now in Liberty township; Moody, in Liberty township; Mary, Mrs. Hughes; Joseph, in Milford township; Harry, in Liberty township, and Edward, deceased. Almond, jr., our subject, after completing the educational course provided through the district schools, entered upon his life work as a farmer. He was married in 1878, to Jennie Kerr, daughter of William and Salome (Heck) Kerr. William Kerr was a son of William and Emma (Ball) Kerr. William Kerr, sr., was born in Butler county, and was of Irish descent. Salome Heck, wife of William Kerr, jr., was the daughter of Jonas and Magdalena (Buck). He came from Pennsylvania and settled in Madison township, and Magdalena Buck was born in Madison township. Aaron Kerr, brother of William Kerr, was a soldier in the Civil war. After their marriage, William Kerr and his wife Salome lived in Madison township, and to them were born seven children: Jonas, now living in Cincinnati; Jennie, wife of the subject of this sketch; Eunice, Mrs. Young, Cleveland, Ohio; John, Hamilton, Ohio; Charles, Portsmouth, Ohio; Salome, unmarried, Louisville, Ky.; Ollie, Mrs. Sherman, Trenton, Ohio. The parents are buried in Miltonville cemetery. After their marriage, Almond, our subject, and his wife lived in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, on the farm purchased by his father from Luther Hughes. Throughout his entire life he followed the vocation of farming. To Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born three children; Truman, who married Emma Tuley and is the father of five children—Clarabelle, John, Helen, Warren, Rebecca—lives in Union township; Mary, unmarried; Charles. The death of Mr. Davis occurred November 11, 1916. In life, he was an industrious, careful man, and through his good management and well-directed efforts, a very desirable and profitable farm of 158 acres was left to Mrs. Davis, on which the family continues to make their home. Members of the family

have taken much part in the special efforts made in behalf of the Red Cross, Victory Loan drives, and the other war activities. Their long residence in the county has brought to them a very large circle of acquaintances and friends. The denominational affiliation of the family is with the Christian church.

Dunham Davis, a prominent farmer of Oxford township, was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, March 30, 1856. He is the son of Joshua and Elizabeth Davis. Joshua Davis was a native of New Jersey; his wife, Elizabeth, a native of Hamilton county, Ohio. Joshua Davis, came to Butler county in 1863 and located in Oxford. Here he built a business block which was a great improvement to the town at that time. He then retired and lived in Oxford until the time of his death, which occurred in 1884. His wife died in 1906. They were the parents of twelve children, five of whom are now living: Harriette, Catherine, Phoebe, Joshua and Dunham, the subject of this sketch. Dunham Davis received his education in Oxford. After leaving school he engaged in farming, retiling a farm from his father for three years. He then moved to Oxford and established a livery business where he remained but a short time. Desiring to return to farm life, he located on a farm of sixty-one acres in section 35, Oxford township, which he afterwards bought and where he now resides. He is a firm believer in fine-blooded stock, specializing in thoroughbred Duroc Jersey hogs and high grade horses. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his community, having been president of the Oxford township school board for thirteen years and is now township trustee, which office he has held for eight years. Mr. Davis was married in 1876 to Ella S. Rumple, daughter of William and Mary (Carr) Rumple. Three children were born to this union: Donald, Elizabeth, and William, now deceased. Donald answered the call of his country in the great World war, serving in the 324th Heavy Field Artillery, and seeing six months' service overseas.

Moody Davis. One of the best known and most esteemed of the retired farmers of Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, is Moody Davis. He comes from a family of agriculturists and from the outset of his career demonstrated that he was of the type which is bound to succeed. Realizing that the young man who applies himself diligently and conscientiously can work his way to the top and become an influential figure in agriculture the same as in any other line of human endeavor he determined to follow in the footsteps of his father. Endowed with farseeing vision and of unquestioned honesty he soon became known as one of the promising young agriculturists of his community and his neighbors were pleased with his success. Although he has given up active farming after a long and useful career he still manifests much interest in affairs pertaining to the farm and his knowledge of intricate phases of planting, etc., is such that his counsel is frequently sought by his neighbors. His parents were among the early settlers of Butler county and located in that section when the extensive cultivated fields of today were vast prairies. Almond and Maria (Herr) Davis, the parents, were not only among the old settlers of Butler county,

but they were also among the most highly esteemed in that community. The father was known as a man whose friendship was to be prized, as his loyalty to his neighbors was such that he would undergo the most trying sacrifice in order to promote the well-being of his fellowmen. He was a native of Vermont and possessed the characteristic vigor and assertiveness of the typical New Englander. He migrated to Butler county when a young man and was married there. After marriage he and his wife moved to Warren county, Ohio, and remained there about five years, in the meantime Moody having been born. The longing for Butler county with its decided advantages as an agricultural section was such that the couple returned there, locating in Liberty township, where both lived on a farm until death. He passed away in 1883 and his wife died in 1906. To this couple seven children were born, four of whom are now living: Harry, Elizabeth, Moody and Joseph. Harry, who married Elizabeth Jacobs and has four children, Gordon, Joseph, Fred and Alice, makes his home with Moody; Elizabeth is the wife of J. Corwin Elliott and Joseph married Lena Kopp. The name of Davis has been inseparably associated with some of the most important movements of the early days which had for their purpose the development of the agricultural prestige of Butler county. It is but natural that the children should seek to perpetuate the estimable distinction achieved by their parents for doing things. Moody Davis for many years before his retirement was recognized as a man of much initiative and energy, who was revered as a neighbor and admired for his high character. He has always been a firm believer in the agricultural future of Butler county, and despite the fact that on numerous occasions he had opportunities to locate elsewhere he could not be induced to give up his residence in Liberty township. Although he has never taken active interest in politics he has been identified with undertakings that had for their purpose the promotion of the best interests of his community.

Truman Davis. Farming, in all its branches, has been considered an excellent line of business since the beginning of civilization, but it has only been in comparatively recent years that it has been developed to a state of perfection and has taken its proper place among the occupations followed by mankind. In the present day of progress and enlightenment, the farmers are operating along scientific lines, and one in Butler county who has recognized the value accruing through the following of modern methods and the use of improved inventions is Truman Davis, the owner of a valuable and well-improved property in Union township, Mr. Davis was born in this township, May 22, 1878, a son of Almond and Jennie (Kerr) Davis, both of this county. The father, a member of an old family, spent his entire life as an agriculturist in Butler county, where he owned 160 acres of land, and died highly esteemed and respected. A complete review of his career and the history of the Davis family will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of Moody Davis. Of the children born to Almond and Jennie Davis, one is deceased, and Mary and Truman survive. Truman Davis received his education in a country school in Butler county, and secured his

introduction to agricultural methods under the excellent preceptorship of his father. Later, after renting some land for a time, he was married and at that time began operations on a rented tract of 135 acres in Fairfield township, on which he made his home for four years, subsequently going to Liberty township, where he rented 160 acres for six years. During his residence in that township he served as a member of the board of township trustees. In 1914, Mr. Davis came to Union township and purchased the old Pocock farm, of 240 acres, on which he has since made numerous improvements. He engages in general farming, feeds from seventy-five to 150 hogs each year, and also handles a good grade of cattle, and in each direction has been successful in his efforts. He is a man of progressive ideas and great industry, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people in the community in which his pleasant home is located. Since coming to Union township he has served competently as a member of the board of school directors. Politically he is inclined to be a Democrat, but has independent ideas which keep him from being a radical. Mr. Davis married Emma, daughter of John S. and Laura Tuley, and they are the parents of five children: Clarabelle, John A., Helen, Warren T., and Lillian Rebecca.

James T. Davison, who, with his wife, owns a beautiful farm of 104 acres lying in Union township, Butler county, is a native of this township but has not spent all his life here. His birth took place May 10, 1863, son of John and Sarah (Carr) Davison. In early life the father was a farmer in Butler county, but when James T. was six years old he moved to St. Paul, Ind., where he found profitable work for a time in a stone quarry, but later returned to agricultural pursuits and was a farmer in Rush county, Ind., during the remainder of his life. Of his family of eight children there are six living: James T. being the only one in Butler county. He enjoyed public school advantages in Rush county, Ind., and began life there as a farmhand, subsequently renting land for ten years in Rush county, at the end of that period embarking in the lumber business. For sixteen years Mr. Davison continued to be interested in lumber, in 1900 coming back to his native county, where he has resided ever since and where he is now engaged in farming. In 1913, he married Anna, daughter of Fred and Nancy (Lemon) Wicke, who were prominent people in Union township for many years, the father of Mrs. Davison being a man of substantial fortune and a leader in public affairs in Union township. Mr. and Mrs. Davison are well known and highly esteemed. They are members of the Presbyterian church of West Chester. Although Mr. Davison has never accepted any political office for himself he loyally supports his friends when they believe, as he does, in the principles of the old Democratic party.

John C. Day. In the death of John C. Day, which occurred April 8, 1915, Butler county lost one of its public-spirited citizens, a man whose life had been an exemplary one, and who by his honest and upright manner had won the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Mr. Day was for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits in Ross township, where he left his descendants the heritage

of an honored name, as well as material property that represented years of honest and industrious labor. He was born at Bevistown, Hamilton county, Ohio, May 23, 1861, a son of George and Anna (Fried) Day, natives of Germany. The parents were married in the land of their nativity, shortly after which they emigrated to the United States and settled in Hamilton county, where they passed the rest of their lives in the pursuits of agriculture and were well and familiarly known to the people of their community as honest, God-fearing people. They were the parents of the following children: John C.; Henry, Joseph and Louis, residents of Hamilton county; August, of Dayton, Ky., Anna, of Hamilton county, who married Chris Weber, and Helena, the wife of Henry Listerman, also of Hamilton county. John C. Day attended the public school at Bevistown and remained at home assisting his father until his marriage, October 12, 1884, to Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Lammat) Martin, natives of Germany and early residents of near Cincinnati, who passed the later years of their lives in agricultural operations in Hamilton county and were people well known and greatly respected. In the Martin family there were born the following children: Jacob, who is deceased; George, who makes his home with his sister, Mrs. Day; Barbara, the wife of Henry Schaefer; Christiana, who maried Michael Kneppel; Catherine, who became the wife of Anthony Huber; Mary, who married Henry Kettleman; Philomena, deceased; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Day; and Joseph. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Day settled on a farm in Morgan township, where they made their home for four years, and then came to Ross township took up a property on the Millville pike, from which they moved to the present Day farm, formerly the Bachmann place, a tract of 336 acres. Here Mr. Day continued successfully as a farmer and cattle raiser until his death. Mr. Day was a good farmer, a kind friend and an excellent citizen. He was a member of St. Aloysius Catholic church and made his religion his daily companion, being at all times ready to assist the sick or distressed. Kind and charitable to all, he was greatly missed, and his sorrowing family was the recipient of many messages of condolence from those who had known and admired him. In politics a Democrat, he did not seek office, although he answered the call of citizenship and acted ably as supervisor and in other township capacities. He and his wife were the parents of fifteen children: Catherine, who married Anthony Roth and resides at Lindenwald, Ohio; Aloysius, of Hamilton, who married Frances Staarman and has two children, Paul and Margaret; Eleanora, who married John Mayberry, of near Shandon, and has four children, Herman, Andrew, Marcella and Joseph; Leona, who is deceased; Emma, Cletus, Edward, Theresa, Mathilda, Mello, Leo, Hilda, Dorothy; Bertha, who died when five years of age; and Ralph. Mrs. Day, who survives her husband, still resides on the home farm, and is highly esteemed in her locality, where, during her long residence, she had drawn unto herself many lasting friendships.

David H. De Armond. A prominent and energetic figure in the business world of Hamilton during the past twenty years, David

H. De Armond is widely known in the real estate field as well as to the automobile trade. In both of his business connections he has met with unqualified success, and in his daily activities has demonstrated the possession of splendid business qualifications. Mr. De Armond was born on a farm in the southwestern part of Morgan township, Butler county, O., a son of Joseph De Armond. His paternal granfather was King De Armond, one of the notable characters of the early days of Butler county, whence he came in 1823 from Western Pennsylvania. He took up a tract of land in the woods, cleared the timber by infinite labor, and finally succeeded in the establishing of a home, where he lived peacefully and quietly until the gold strike in California caused thousands of hopeful men from every part of the world to make the trip to the Golden State in quest of the precious metal. King De Armond was one of those to make the rush, but soon discovered that fortunes were not to be picked up by all and decided to return to his farm. On the return journey cholera broke out on shipboard, he fell a victim, died, and was buried at sea. He married Nancy Loyd of Pennsylvania, who died at Shelbyville, Ind., and they became the parents of four children; King, who met his death in a gold mine accident in Idaho, in 1870; Joseph, the father of David H.; Elizabeth and Priscilla. All are now deceased. Joseph De Armond received his education in the home schools and also took a course in medicine, with the original intention of entering that profession as a practitioner, but was dissuaded from his object and instead of a professional life led an agricultural one. He passed his entire career on a farm in Morgan township, was an industrious, thrifty and successful farmer, and won the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. His death occurred in 1895, while his widow survived until 1917. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the parents of the following children: John H., who was on the police force of Hamilton for many years and is now a United States Government guard; David H.; Evelyn, who married Charles Falkenstein, of Hamilton, O.; William, who is an automobile mechanician of Hamilton; James A., a resident of Chicago, and conductor on the Michigan Air Line Railroad; Emmasetta, who is the wife of Alex De Armond, in partnership in the automobile business with David H. De Armond at Hamilton; Alfred, who died in 1893; and Clyde, who died February 17, 1917. David H. De Armond attended the public graded and high schools, and entered upon his career as a school teacher. For six years he was engaged in molding the minds of the rural youths, and then gave up the profession of educator to accept employment in the business world as a traveling salesman for the Jersey Packing company, of Hamilton, his territory being in the western states. During this time he had his attention brought to the opportunities to be found in the real estate business, and began experimenting in a small way. Early successes encouraged him to further investments, and eventually he decided to turn his entire attention and abilities to this business. Accordingly, in 1902, he embarked in the business in partnership with Jo Williams, and they continued together until 1918, with offices in the Rentschler

building. They have been very successful in handling city and farm property, and have been the medium through which some large deals have been consummated. In 1918 the firm of Williams and De Armond was dissolved, Mr. De Armond forming a partnership with C. B. Thompson, of Hamilton, Ohio, under the firm name of De Armond & Thompson, with offices at 513-514 Rentschler building. The new firm met with phenomenal success from the beginning of its existence and is rated one of the most enterprising in Hamilton. In 1909, realizing the trend of affairs in regard to the use of the automobile, Mr. De Armond founded the Central Motor Company of Hamilton, and this was incorporated in the following year, with these officers: David H. De Armond, president; James A. Cox, vice-president and treasurer; and Frank Welsh, secretary. Later, Mr. Cox disposed of his interests and H. C. Snively succeeded him as vice-president and treasurer. In 1919 Mr. Snively disposed of his holding to Alex De Armond and Frank Welsh, who together with Mr. D. H. De Armond now control this enterprising and successful concern. This company conducts a selling agency for motor cars and trucks, maintains a service station, and handles Buick cars and Master trucks. In addition to being one of his city's prominent business men, Mr. De Armond has also been prominent in public affairs and active in politics. He is a staunch Democrat and on that ticket was elected clerk of the council one term and director of public safety two terms. He is personally popular with a wide circle of friends and enjoys the companionship of his fellows, being a life member of the Elks lodge No. 93 and the Knights of Pythias No. 39. Mr. De Armond married Miss Maude Heilman, of Preble county, O. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

John Peter Deitsch, the owner of a ninety-eight acre farm in Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, is one of the many highly productive farmers of this township. This property, formerly owned by his father, is considered one of the most desirable of its acreage in the township, as the soil is of the best and every consideration appears to be in its favor. Mr. Deitsch has had the greatest degree of success during the years that he has operated the farm and considering his past achievements the future could not be more reassuring. Born in Butler county, September 6, 1867, he was the oldest of three children of Peter and Frances (Zettler) Deitsch, the other two being Frank, deceased, and Frances. The father was a native of France and the mother came to Ohio from Germany, and during their long residence in Butler county were highly esteemed by their neighbors. After their marriage in Hamilton they settled on a farm in Ross township and were devout members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church of Hamilton. John Peter was educated in the grammar schools and also St. Joseph's parochial school at Hamilton, and was possessed of the vigor and stamina so characteristic of the farmer boy which has placed him among the influential agriculturists of Butler county. He married Miss Louisa Ast, daughter of Andrew and Mary (Kramer) Ast, who were widely and favorably known throughout Butler county. The other children besides Louisa were—Anna, Nellie, Carrie, Mamie, John and Jacob. The

members of this family were devout Roman Catholics. After their marriage Mr. Deitsch and wife moved to the farm in Ross township, which was well improved when he took it over. He has added many modern improvements. Because of his long association with affairs pertaining to the farm he is recognized as an authority on such matters and is also known as a man of the utmost business integrity. While he has never taken active interest in politics he is a Democrat. He is a parishioner of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church and was identified with the numerous World war activities.

Charles Dell. An instance of a man starting out in life with few visible assets, and through wise disposal of his opportunities transforming his condition into one of more than ordinary prosperity and influence, is found in the rise of Charles Dell, now a retired resident of Middletown, where for many years he was proprietor of the City Hotel. Mr. Dell was born May 25, 1835, at Wildungen, Germany, a son of Morris and Margaret Dell, who passed their entire lives at that place. There were the following children in the family: Katie, who died in Europe; Frederick, a shoemaker by trade, who joined his brother at Middletown in 1861, and died at this place; Charles; Christian, a shoemaker, who died in Europe; and Charlotte, who also passed her life in Germany. Charles Dell attended the public schools of his native place, and as a young man learned the trade of shoemaker in his father's shop. He decided to seek his fortune in the United States, his arrival in this country being in the year 1854. In the fall of that year he left Philadelphia and located at Dayton, which city at that time had a population of but 10,000. While he knew his trade, he could not readily find employment and so accepted a place with B. F. Eltz, for whom he hauled wood, took care of the stock and performed odd jobs, for a salary of $5 per month. Later he found work at his trade at Franklin, where he remained one year, and then came to Middletown, where he worked at his vocation, being for some time employed by various firms here. He then again went to Franklin, where he worked for some time in the shoe shop of John Kaiser, but in 1866 again came to Middletown and was variously employed. During all this time his industry and thrift had enabled him to accumulate some capital, which, in 1876, he invested in the building of the City Hotel. During the next twenty-two years he acted as host of this establishment, which became one of the most popular in the city, being well patronized by the traveling public because of the excellence of its service and the geniality of its proprietor. When he retired from active work, Mr. Dell turned the management of the hotel over to his son, Frank, who conducted it until 1916. Mr. Dell still retains ownership of this property. Mr. Dell is now living in his comfortable home at 1024 East Third street, where he is enjoying the fruits of his many years of earnest and unremitting labor. He was married at Trenton, O., to Margaret Yeager, who was born in Germany, and they became the parents of nine children, as follows: Charles, engaged in the mining business at Los Angeles, Cal.; Mary, who married first Oliver Hall and second Edward Frisch and resides at Middletown; George, deceased, who was a

plumber at Cincinnati; Anna, who resides with her father; Frank, retired, who conducted the hotel business for eighteen years; Otto, a broker of Chicago; Clara, who married James Kemble, a Chicago broker; Dr. August, a practising physician of Middletown; and Harry, an attorney of this city. Charles Dell is a member of the Lutheran church of Middletown. His career emphasizes the worth of perseverance, good judgment, wise investment and economy, of careful development of children in ways of obedience, gratitude and painstaking methods, and of cheerfulness in labor, combined with looking on the bright side of things and expecting the best that the time and occupation affords. Mrs. Dell died February 28, 1919, and was buried at Middletown.

Alfred Demoret, veteran of the Civil war, one of the leading citizens of the thriving community of Venice, and formerly a successful and prominent agriculturist in the vicinity of that place, belongs to an old and honored family, and one whose members have distinguished themselves in various avenues of life's activities. He was born on a farm in Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, being a son of Joseph and Mary (Couley) Demoret, and a grandson of Nicholas Demoret. Nicholas Demoret was born in France, and as a youth emigrated to America, where not long afterward he joined Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne in one of his expeditions against the Indians. He was married in Pennsylvania to Lydia Bennett, and following their union they came down the Ohio river on a flatboat and took up their residence at Cincinnati. In 1815 they removed to Butler county, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm, and when they died were laid to rest in the cemetery at Venice. They were the parents of the following children: Louis, Samuel, John, Bartholomew, James K., Joseph, Lydia, Jane and Mary. Joseph Demoret was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, and following his marriage to Mary Couley settled two and one-half miles northwest of Venice, where both rounded out long, useful and honorable careers and died with the respect and esteem of their townspeople. They were the parents of William, who served during the Civil war, in the Army of the Cumberland, as a private in Company F, 93d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Robert Joyce, Col. Charles Anderson; Alfred, of this notice; Louis; James; Samuel; Joseph E.; Mary E. Alfred Demoret was born February 7, 1843, and received a public school education in Butler county. He was reared on the home farm and was employed in assisting his father when the Civil war came on, and, with his brother, William, and his cousin, Ellis N., a son of James K. Demoret, he enlisted in Company F, 93d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Demoret saw two years and ten months of active service with this regiment, which was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and engaged in battles in Tennessee, Kentucky and Georgia. Among his battles were Stone River, Chickamauga, Liberty Gap, Orchard Knob, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Pickett's Mills, Peach-tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin and Nashville, and June 8, 1865, the war being over, the brave and gallant young soldier received his honorable discharge and was mustered out of the service. Resuming the

duties of civil life, he returned to the home farm, and one year later was united in marriage with Amanda M., daughter of George W. and Emmeline (Brundage) Ent, who had the following brothers and sisters: Eliza, John and Marilda, all older than she, and George W., Jane, William and James L., who were younger. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Demoret located on a farm in Ross township, and with the exception of two years in Milford township made that their home until 1893, when they occupied their present pleasant home at Venice, Mr. Demoret working at the carpenter trade till 1915, when he practically retired from active life. Mr. Demoret is a man of absolute integrity and commendable public spirit and maintains a high standing in the community. He gave good proof of his loyalty during the war, in which two of his grandsons engaged, and in which he was a large contributor to the Red Cross, Liberty Bond and other movements. His political tendencies cause him to vote the Democratic ticket, and he is still one of the popular comrades of Wetzel Compton Post, G. A. R., at Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Demoret have had the following children: Charles E., of Ross township, who married Ella Decker, and has two children,—Isaac A. and Sarah; William C., who married Sadie Decker and had two sons, Ernest and Gordon, and after her death married Emma Lehrmann; Louis S., who is unmarried of Ross township, Butler county; Frank S., who married Josie Lesourd and after her death took for his second wife Flossie Stinger; and John A., who is unmarried. Ernest and Gordon Demoret, sons of William C. Demoret, entered their country's service and were sent overseas to France, where Ernest was identified with the Aviation Corps and Gordon with the Motor Truck service, hauling supplies to the front.

J. A. Deneen. Butler county is fortunate in having as superintendent of the county infirmary and farm the present efficient and popular incumbent, whose executive ability and industrial experience admirably fortify him for the manifold responsibilities that rest upon him in connection with the farm operations and the proper care of the unfortunate wards of the well ordered institution. The official who holds this position is Mr. Deneen, and his executive loyalty is undoubtedly augmented by the fact that he is a native son of Butler county and takes deep interest in all things touching its welfare. The farm which is now owned by the county and utilized for the infirmary is the birth place of Mr. Deneen himself, who was born the 31st of March, 1866, at the time of his father's administration. The Deneen family has long been one of prominence and influence in Butler county, and on other pages of this work are given adequate data concerning its history, specially in the sketch dedicated to Samuel Deneen. He whose name introduces this review received his youthful education in the public schools of Fairfield and Liberty townships, with supplementary discipline in the high school at Monroe. After leaving school he was engaged in farming in Liberty township, and thereafter he conducted successful operations as an agriculturist and stock grower in Liberty township, where he at one time farmed 265 acres. During the course of his independent career as a farmer

he always gave special attention to the breeding and raising of fine live stock, including pure blood Poland China swine, Jersey cattle and Hampshiredown sheep. It may be noted in this connection that for thirty-five years he was thus engaged in raising full-blooded hogs of the best type, that Jersey cattle were continuously raised by him for a quarter of a century, and that he was a prominent grower of the Hampshiredown sheep for twelve years. He exhibited his live stock at numerous county fairs, not only in Ohio but also in Indiana and Michigan, and always proved a prize-winner at such exhibitions, even as he did in his exhibits at the Ohio State fair. In connection with his farm enterprise he conducted a successful dairy department for twenty-five years, and in connection with his varied and progressive activities he did much to improve the grades of live stock raised in this section of his native state. He continued his independent enterprise as one of the prominent and representative agriculturists and stock growers of Butler county until 1918, when he was appointed to and assumed the office of superintendent of the county infirmary and farm. He is the owner of a valuable farm of 154 acres, in Liberty township, is a man of fine personality and commands the unreserved confidence and esteem of the people of his native county. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Democratic party and he has ever been vigorous in support of measures and enterprises advanced for the general welfare of the community. On the 23d of February, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Deneen to Miss Carrie T. Williamson, who likewise was born and reared in Butler county and who is a daughter of Ezra T. and Martha Williamson. Of the two children of this union the firstborn was Ralph W., who died at the age of fourteen years; Lawrence E., who is actively identified with farm industry in Butler county, married Miss Jean Sample, of Columbus, Ohio, and they have two children, Donald and Douglas, who now live on the old Deneen homestead.

Lawrence Deneen, one of the best known stockmen of Ohio, was born at Maud, O., Butler county, Ohio, September 29, 1895. He is a son of Jacob Deneen, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work. He received his early education at Monroe, Ohio, and after being graduated from the high school there was matriculated at Ohio State university at Columbus. He devoted his entire time at college to the agricultural course, receiving the degree of B. S. of agriculture in 1917. His devotion to science in nowise impaired his social popularity; he was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and was elected president and secretary of his class in his junior year. After the completion of his college career he returned to his father's farm and is now actively engaged in the management of that 154-acre property. He has attained unusual success in the breeding of thoroughbred Jersey cattle, Hampshiredown sheep, and Poland China hogs. He has exhibited with his father in county fairs in the States of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan and in the years 1916, 1917, 1918 won the Sweepstake Prize at Hamilton with his Jersey cattle. Mr. Deneen was married in 1916 to Jean, a daughter of Edward and Mary Sample of Washington, Pa.,

and to their union have been born two children: Donald and Douglas. Politically the principles of the Democratic party conform nearest to his views, but he is liberal and progressive in recognizing that the man takes preeminence over the party.

Samuel Deneen, a retired farmer of Monroe, and one of the substantial men of Butler county, was formerly active in agricultural matters, and for fourteen years served as superintendent of the Butler County infirmary. He was born in Riley township, Butler county, O., January 23, 1831, a son of Alexander and Martha (Beyers) Deneen, and grandson of James and Mary (Cresswell) Deneen, natives of Pennsylvania, who, in 1800, came from their native state to Cincinnati, O., making the trip down the Ohio river in a flatboat. At that time Cincinnati was but a small settlement, and for five years they were engaged in farming there, in what is now the very center of the business portion of the city. In 1805 they moved to Riley township, Butler county, where James DeNeen secured a section of government land, all of which was totally uncultivated, and he at once went to work to clear and develop it. On this land he erected a little log cabin and he and his wife went through many experiences and suffered from the hardships naturally attendant upon pioneer life. Upon one occasion his wife set out for a neighbor's, some distance from home, to try and secure her help in a proposed job, for in those days the pioneers were willing to assist each other in all their work. A storm came up, and the poor lady lost her way, and wandered about all night in the snow. Her feet were badly frozen, and she was attacked by the wolves. Probably she never forgot her experiences during the remainder of her life. James Deneen was a soldier during the American Revolution and he lived to be eighty-three years of age. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church. Their children were as follows: Eliza, Betsy, Ann, an unnamed infant, Hettie and Alexander. Alexander Deneen was born January 1, 1800, in Pennsylvania, and was an infant when his parents brought him to Cincinnati, O., and only five years old when they arrived in Riley township. In those early days there were but few schools, and they were located long distances apart. Alexander Deneen had to walk three miles each way in order to secure the little schooling that came his way, but he made the most of his opportunities, and developed into a practical, well-informed man. After his marriage, he located on his father's homestead, and lived on it until his death, which occurred when he was eighty-four years old from typhoid fever. His wife died in 1864, aged fifty-eight years, a devout member of the Presbyterian church. Politically Alexander Deneen was a Democrat. He and Mrs. Deneen had the following children: Mary Jane, who died at the age of two years; James, who was a farmer, is deceased; Martha Ann, who married Malcolm Peters; Samuel, whose name heads this review; Mary J., a widow who lives at Oxford, O., was married (first) to Elisha London, and (second) to Alonzo Warren; John, who was a farmer, is deceased; Elizabeth, who married Hiram Linley, is deceased, and so is her husband; Margaret, who married Isaac Wilson, lives at Chicago, Ill.; William,

who was a butcher and farmer, is deceased; Washington, who was a farmer of Riley township; and Alfred, who conducts a truck garden in Kansas. Samuel Deneen attended the common schools of his native township, and assisted his father in the farm work, remaining at home until his marriage in 1858, when he engaged in farming on his own account, renting land in Riley township, and operating it until his appointment, in 1864, as superintendent of the Butler County infirmary, and held that position for fourteen years. He then bought a farm of eighty acres, one and one-half miles south of Monroe, later adding forty acres to it, and here he lived until 1896, when he moved to Bethany and spent a year. Mr. Deneen then retired, and came to Monroe, where he has since resided. Politically he is a Democrat, and he served Monroe as trustee for one year. January 22, 1858, Samuel Deneen and Sarah C. Trembley were united in marriage. She was born in Riley township, Butler county, O., August 3, 1837, a daughter of Amos and Martha (Alexander) Trembley. Amos Trembley was born in Riley township, in 1811, a son of Daniel V. and Mary (Ross) Trembley, pioneers of Riley township, who had the following children: Peter, Samuel, Daniel, Sistes, Nancy, Mary, Margaret, Rebecca, Sarah and Amos. The Alexander family came from Pennsylvania to Riley township at a very early day. The parents of Martha (Alexander) Trembley had the following children: William, Henry, Lewis, Joseph, Elizabeth, Nancy and Martha. Amos Trembley and his wife had children as follows: Daniel, who was a farmer, is deceased; Sarah C., who is Mrs. Deneen; Cynthia, who is deceased; James, who is deceased; Rebecca; and an unnamed infant. Mr. and Mrs. Deneen became the parents of six children, three of whom survive, namely: Florence, who was married (first) to Charles Hughes, and (second) to John Seward of Hamilton, O.; Addie, who married James Tooley, lives at Hamilton, O., has two children,—Hirshel and Ernest; and Jacob A., who is a stockman and farmer, and county superintendent of the Butler county infirmary, married Carrie Williamson, and has one son,—Lawrence. Both Mr. and Mrs. Deneen stand very high in public estimation, and have attached to them a number of warm personal friends at Monroe and all over Butler county. They are kindly, charitable people, who have always done their full duty as they saw it, and their children are numbered among the desirable residents of their several communities. In his public life Mr. Deneen carried out humane policies, and it was generally recognized that his judgments were upright and sincere.

D. Frank Dick. During the period that D. Frank Dick has been engaged in the real estate business at Hamilton, he has been one of the potent forces in the upbuilding of the city and is credited with having been instrumental in the development of several fine residential sections. When he first took up this business, several sections of the city were restricted in area and population, but gave promise of attaining a position of importance, and Mr. Dick, who was possessed of an unusual amount of energy, had a large part in the city's growth. His career as a successful realty man has been made the more satisfactory through the fact that he is building

up the community of his nativity, he having been born at Hamilton, a son of David H. and Mary Jane (Baty) Dick, early settlers of Butler county. David H. Dick died before he reached his thirtieth year, leaving three children: D. Frank; Mrs. Hon. Henry C. Gray, of Hamilton; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Dick was again married after the death of her first husband, to Wm. Sample, and he also passed away before the attainment of his thirtieth year, leaving two children, both now deceased. D. Frank Dick received his early education in the public schools of Hamilton and when still a lad went with his mother to Millville, where he also attended the graded schools, subsequently supplementing this attendance by a course at Miami university, Oxford, Ohio. For several years thereafter he followed farming as an employee and then embarked in agricultural pursuits upon his own account, and for twenty years was accounted one of the practical, progressive farmers of his locality, a splendid judge of cattle and a scientific tiller of the soil who studied his calling and lent dignity of labor to its operation. During all this period he had been more or less interested in the real estate business of which he made a close and careful study, and his early ventures therein encouraged him to enlarge his scope, until finally his holdings became of such volume that he decided to give up agricultural work in favor of the realty field. He now maintains offices at Park and Dick avenues and his transactions are extensive in character, having involved some of the largest deals of recent years at Hamilton. While he is shrewd and a keen business man, ready to accept every opportunity, he is honorable in his dealings and thus occupies an excellent position in public esteem and the confidence of his associates. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Hamilton, of which he was for some years a trustee, and has contributed materially and generously to worthy religious, educational and charitable movements. He and Mrs. Dick make their home at their beautiful residence on Park and Dick avenues, in a community which has been developed under the supervision of Mr. Dick, and which is one of the exclusive residence districts of the city. In 1871, at Hamilton, Mr. Dick was united in marriage with Miss Louise Beal, who was born at Hamilton and has passed her entire life here, a woman very popular in social and church circles and one keenly interested in the important movements of the day, particularly as they affect her home locality. To this union there have been born four children, of whom two survive: Russie Dick Seidensticker, the wife of a well-known jewelry merchant at Hamilton; and Carrie, who is the wife of Elmore Frechtling, who is engaged in the insurance business at Hamilton.

John Wilson Dick. In enumerating the wide-awake agriculturists of Hanover township mention must be made of John Wilson Dick. He is widely and favorably known by the business interests as well as agriculturists of Butler county and enjoys the esteem of all. He was born in Ross township, Butler county, the son of Samuel and Isabelle (Parks) Dick. He was educated in the schools of the township and on February 20, 1884, married Emma F. Ormston, daughter of David and Nancy (Stone) Ormston. Thomas Stone,

an uncle of Mrs. Dick, was a captain in the Civil war. After his marriage Mr. Dick was engaged in the milling business at Hagerstown, Ind., for a time. Subsequently he farmed in Fairfield township and later retired and moved to Hamilton. His son, George, who died in October, 1918, married Irene Taylor, daughter of Henry and Flora (Parson) Taylor. Enoch Taylor, a paternal ancestor, was in the Civil war, and William Parsons, Mrs. George Dick's maternal ancestor, also saw service throughout the Civil war. John Wilson Dick and wife divide their time between Hamilton and the farm in Hanover township. From time to time he has made vast improvements in this property, thereby making it one of the most attractive and productive farms in his section of Ohio. He was an energetic worker in all war activities, putting forth every effort to make all Liberty loan campaigns a success. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Thomas J. Dickey was born in Madison township, Butler county, 1868. His parents were Samuel and Elizabeth Dickey, both natives of this county, the father having been engaged in the pursuits of agriculture during the major portion of his life. After he had acquired sufficient means to enable him to give up this arduous life he removed to West Middletown, Ohio, where he served as justice of the peace for a number of years. He and his wife were the parents of six children of whom Thomas J. Dickey is the only one living in this county. He attended the public schools of his native county and then took up farming with his father until the time of his marriage when he rented a farm in Madison township for three years. At the expiration of this period he moved to a farm near Poast Town where he resided for four years, thence locating in Warren county, farming there till February, 1918. In that month he took over the 220-acre Kyle farm in Liberty township which he is rapidly improving to take its place among the leading farms of that section. Socially he is prominent in the community and is a well-known member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he adheres to the Jeffersonian tradition although he has never cared to become a candidate for public office. On December 19, 1894, Mr. Dickey was united in marriage to Maud, daughter of James Knox, and their union has been blessed by two children: Glynn, who died August, 1917, and Mildred still residing at home.

H. Robert Dilg, one of the native sons of Hamilton, commenced his career in a modest position and today is accounted one of the city's influential citizens, in his capacity as treasurer of the Black-Clawson company. Mr. Dilg was born at Hamilton, a son of Frederick and Mary (Kline) Dilg, natives of Ohio, the former of Cincinnati and the latter of Hamilton. The father was a pioneer merchant of Hamilton, and a man highly respected and esteemed, both because of his upright life and absolute integrity, and because of his record as a soldier during the Civil war, in which he fought bravely as a member of an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. He and his wife were the parents of six children: Catherine, Clara, Louise, Margaret, Mary and H. Robert. H. Robert Dilg received a public school education, and after graduating from high school became a bookkeeper

for August Benninghofer. In 1891 he entered the employ of the Black-Clawson company, manufacturers of paper mill machinery, with which concern he has remained to the present time, having steadily advanced in position and influence until he is today treasurer of this large concern and one of its heavy stockholders. His standing among business men of his community is that of a sound and conservative, yet progressive man of affairs, whose connections are important and whose friendships are numerous. He belongs to a number of social and fraternal bodies, and with his family, belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Dilg was married in 1895 to Anna M., daughter of John and Magdalena Miller, of Hamilton, and they have four children: Romilda, Fred, Robert and Mary Elizabeth.

Albert Dimmack. From the time of its inception, in 1900, until his resignation in 1919, Albert Dimmack was employed by the American Rolling mill in the capacity of roller and in this period established a reputation for integrity, honorable dealing, industry and fidelity that has since assisted him greatly in making a success of his venture as proprietor of a grocery at Middletown. In the commercial life of the city of his adoption, he has already made his influence and ability felt, and the high standing which he enjoyed in the confidence of his fellow-workers in his former occupation, is due to be duplicated in his new avenue of activity. Mr. Dimmack was born at Bilston, Staffordshire, England, March 24, 1877, a son of Ephraim and Harriet (Bucknall) Dimmack, the latter of whom is living at Washington, Pa., where the father died. His maternal grandparents were George and Mary (Clark) Bucknall, natives of France. In the family were the following children: Sallie, who died in infancy; Albert, of this notice; Anna, who is the wife of S. A. Lowrey, of Washington, Pa.; Ephraim, of Middletown; Ernest D., of Los Angeles, Calif.; Frank, of Wheeling, W. Va.; Amy, of Wheeling, W. Va.; Harriet, of Los Angeles, Calif.; and Arthur, of Washington, Pa. The education of Albert Dimmack was obtained in the Springfield Academy of Bilston, England, and he was still a young man when he emigrated to the United States to work at his trade. In 1900, at the time of the opening of the American Rolling mill he came to Middletown and became one of this concern's first employees here, and did not sever his connection until 1918, when he bought his present business and commenced his career as a grocer. As a naturally clever man of business, he has already made a good start in his venture, and has a well-stocked, up-to-date and attractive establishment at the corner of Sixth street and Curtis avenue, where he is enjoying an excellent patronage. In addition, he is the owner of a fine home on Curtis avenue and is interested in other property at Middletown. He is a self-made man in all that the word implies, as when he entered upon his career he had naught but his trade, his ambition and his determination to assist him and from a modest start has worked his way to prosperity and business standing. Mr. Dimmack is a clever and cultured Englishman, with a proper and intelligent appreciation of the higher things of life, as will be recognized by a visit to his home. He is a popular member

W. S. DIVER AND FAMILY

of the local lodges of the Masons and Elks, and on matters pertaining to politics takes something of an independent stand, preferring to judge candidates without the attachment of parties, and parties by principles. With his family, he belongs to the Episcopal church. In March, 1891, Mr. Dimmack was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Jeavons, who was born in England, December 29, 1876. To this union there have been born seven children: Elsie H., who is the wife of R. A. Long, of Middletown; Albert; Lois Martha; Ephraim; Marion, who is a senior in the Middletown high school; Audrey, who is a junior in the same institution; and Ruth Mary, who resides at home with her parents.

William S. Diver. The proprietor of Midland Farm, William S. Diver, has been the owner of this Butler county property since 1902, prior to which time he was variously engaged as a farmer and carpenter. In the development of his present farm, which is located three and one-half miles northwest of Middletown, on the Jacksonboro & Franklin road, he has brought into play native ability, industry, and modern ideas, with the result that he has become one of the prosperous agriculturists of Madison township. Mr. Diver was born in Riley township, Butler county, March 31, 1862, a son of Jacob and Emma (Rish) Diver. His father was born at Seven Mile, O., a son of Nicholas Diver, of Wittenburg, Germany, who married a Miss Swope and came to the United States in 1845, settling west of Hamilton, O., where he followed farming, and where both he and Mrs. Diver passed away. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the following survive: Samuel, of Millville; Jacob; Margaret, who married George Lebrick of Miamisburg, O.; Elizabeth, the widow of Jacob Falkenstein, of Millville; and Eliza, the wife of Joseph Weis, of Hamilton. Jacob Diver was given a common school education, and in early life was a shoemaker. Later he engaged in farming, and finally entered business affairs as a grain dealer and mill operator of Middletown, where he now makes his home. He has resided and carried on operations also at Bunker Hill, Seven Mile, West Elkton and other points, is well and favorably known as a business man and a citizen, and a review of his career will be found elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Diver, who was a native of Germany, died in 1894, in the faith of the Reformed church, of which her husband is a member. They were the parents of seven children: William S.; Charles E., an elevator operator of Middletown, a sketch of whom will be found in this work; George, whose death occurred in boyhood; Albert C., of Middletown; Frank O., a mill owner of Middletown, whose sketch will be found in this publication; Elizabeth, the widow of Riley Schenck, who resides with her father; and Minnie, the wife of Hugh Ayers, of Middletown. William S. Diver was educated in the local schools and resided under the parental roof until his marriage, September 11, 1884, to Miss Nettie Marshall, who was born near Middletown, and daughter of Isaac and Eleanor (Doty) Marshall. Isaac was the only son of Henry and Rachel (Newland) Marshall, the latter of Dayton and the former of near Middletown, and Henry was a son of James Marshall, of New Jersey, who came to Ohio in 1800 and settled east of Middletown, where

he secured a section of land and established a home. He had eight children: Esther, Jane, Benjamin, James, Henry, Isaac, Sallie and one other. Isaac Marshall, the father of Mrs. Diver, grew up on the old Marshall homestead, and was a farmer all his life. He was active as a Democrat in politics, and held several local offices, among them infirmary director and township trustee. He is a member of the Baptist church. Since his retirement, he has made his home at Middletown, where he has been well and favorably known for nearly a quarter of a century. His first wife, who died in 1879, was Eleanor Doty, who was born in Lemon township, Butler county, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Vail) Doty, and a granddaughter of Daniel Doty and Stephen Vail, both from New Jersey. Joseph and Mary Doty had children as follows: George R., deceased; Gilbert, of Madison township, Butler county; Vina, deceased; Alice, who died single in California; Jane, a resident of that state; Eleanor; and Mary and Martha, who died in infancy. After the death of his first wife, Isaac Marshall married Mrs. Martha Doty, the widow of Russell Doty, and a daughter of John Harkrader. His third wife bore the maiden name of Eliza Leibrock. Mr. Marshall's children by his first wife were as follows: Mrs. Diver; Dr. J. D., a practising physician of Hamilton, O.; Olive, the wife of Ed C. Stewart, of Middletown; Minnie, the wife of V. V. Puckett, of Hamilton; and Sarah, who died at the age of six years. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Diver: Lurten E., a street car conductor of Detroit, Mich., who married Mary Guilfoyle and has five children, Mary, Nettie, John, Helen and Lurten; Emma, the wife of Garse Billett, a farmer of Madison township, with two children, William and Irma; Olive, the wife of Verne McDonald, a farmer of Madison township, with three children, Chester, Lee and Zelma L.; Ruby, the wife of D. Salmon of Madison township, and they have three children, May, Myrtle and Warren LeRoy, who married and enlisted May 29, 1918, in the U. S. Field Artillery, and was stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky.; and Wallace, Zelma, married Gust C. Chaffos, manager of the theaters in Middletown; Estell and William, residing with their parents. After his marriage, Mr. Diver located on the old Marshall homestead in Lemon township for a period of two years, then spent one year in Madison township as a farmer, following which he took up carpentry as a vocation and spent eleven years at that trade at Middletown and Dayton. He then went back to Lemon township for five years, but in 1902 bought his present place, a tract of 175 acres in section 4, Madison township, three and one-half miles northwest of Middletown, on the Jacksonboro & Franklin road. Midland farm is devoted to general farming, Mr. Diver having 100 acres under cultivation and raising all kinds of grain, as well as devoting some attention to the raising of live stock, mainly Percheron horses. He has given evidence of the possession of much ability as a progressive agriculturist, and the excellent improvements on his property are indicative of his industry and modern ideas. He votes the Democratic ticket, but is not a politician, although interested in everything that may eventuate beneficially for his community. With his family, he belongs to the Pleasant Ridge United Brethren

church. The families of Doty and Marshall from which Mrs. Diver is a descendant, can be traced directly to Edward Doty who came over on the Mayflower.

Joseph W. Doron. Among the realty operators of Hamilton, one who has long been a leader in his field and who has contributed largely to the upbuilding of the community and the attracting of new interests and industries thereto, is Joseph W. Doron. He has been a resident of Hamilton for more than thirty years, and for the greater part of this time has been connected with the real estate business, having built up an excellent reputation through his extensive operations and the manner in which he has directed his transactions. Mr. Doron was born in Chesterfield, N. J., a son of Charles S. and Sarah (Bell) Doron, natives of Mount Holly, N. J. His father, who was a manufacturer of leather goods, spent his entire life in New Jersey, where he died in 1890, and Joseph W. Doron was the only one of the family to locate in Butler county, Ohio. After securing his education in the public schools of his native state, Mr. Doron became a traveling salesman, with headquarters at New York, from which city he traveled on the road for a big cloth manufacturing house for twenty-seven years. In 1888 he came to Hamilton, continuing to travel for several years, and in 1889 erected his handsome home at No. 329 North C street, this being the second house built on Prospect hill. This land was originally owned by Stephen Hughes and later by Asa Shuler, from whom Mr. Doron purchased the entire addition of thirty-five lots, of which he has built on and sold the whole number with the exception of five. In 1889 Mr. Doron was married at Hamilton to Ellen, daughter of Asa and Mary (Sorber) Shuler, natives of Pennsylvania who came early to Hamilton, where Mr. Shuler was one of the founders of the Shuler & Benninghofen plant. Mr. Shuler was born August 15, 1823, the second son of Samuel and Susanna (Weise) Shuler. In 1847 he came to Hamilton, and December 25, 1852 was married to Mary Sorber, also born in Lehigh county, Pa., July 5, 1831. Mr. Shuler died May 12, 1895, and was followed to the grave by his widow December 15, 1898. They were the parents of seven children: Angeline, born February 10, 1854, who married Harry Lashhorn, of Hamilton; James Buchanan, born August 2, 1856, who died September 18, 1857; Charles Adam, born June 23, 1858; William Baron, born February 15, 1860, who died January 1, 1884; Albert, born August 7, 1862, who died February 5, 1870; Ellen Susan, born November 2, 1866; and May, born September 9, 1873, who is the wife of Dr. James A. Dale, a practising physician of Nashville, Tenn. After his marriage, Mr. Doron gave up the road and settled down to the real estate business, in which he has been engaged with great success ever since. He deals extensively in property at Hamilton as a builder and developer, and was the builder of the Dorona flats, in 1907, one of the large and important apartment buildings of Hamilton. Also, he is heavily interested in real estate at Topeka, Kans., where he has closed some heavy transactions, and where he laid out and sold J. W. Doron's Walnut Park addition. He is widely and favorably known in business circles and occupies an excellent position in the confidence of

his associates. In political affairs he supports the Republican party, and his connections aside from his business interests include membership in the Hamilton club and the Butler County Country club. Three sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Doron: Shuler W., Joseph W. and John Lawrence. Shuler W. Doron was born March 7, 1890, and was graduated from Purdue university with the class of 1916. In 1915, with his brother, Joseph W., he started the electrical business of Doron Brothers, with a plant at Wayne and B streets, where six men are now given employment. In 1917 he enlisted in the United States Army, joining, November 17, the A. C. Radio service. From March 30, 1918, to June of that year he was at College Park, Md., and subsequently was stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., from where he was transferred to Camp Alfred Vail, N. J., until receiving his honorable discharge, December 10, 1918. His commission was as second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, and during his service he acted as Senior Instructor of Air Service in radio work. Joseph W. Doron was born August 10, 1895, and was educated at Hamilton and Andover, Mass. He enlisted in the Radio Division, Company A, 308th Field Signal Battalion, 83d Division, as a private and was stationed at Camp Sherman. Later he went to the Officers' Training Camp, at Leon Springs, Texas, where he received his commission as second lieutenant and was sent to Little Silver, N. J. Next, he was transferred to Camp Hancock, Augusta, Ga., where he was made Camp Signal Supply Officer; and finally received his honorable discharge from service; he was promoted to first lieutenant on the 19th of June, 1919, U. S. R. John L. Doron was born November 13, 1900, and is now attending the Hamilton High school. Mrs. Doron, a woman of many graces and attainments, has been prominent in social life and civic activities. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Washington Memorial and was one of the organizers of the local Red Cross Chapter, and was chairman of the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense and of the National League of Woman's Service, both for Butler county.

James J. Dorsey, one of the best known farmers of Liberty township is of good Irish stock, being the son of James and Ellen (Kelly) Dorsey, both of whom were born in the Emerald Isle. James Dorsey, sr., the father of the subject of this sketch, became discontented with conditions in his own country and came to America, the land of commerce. Realizing that his province lay in the realm of agriculture, he immediately entered upon the career of a farmer, hiring out by the month. He applied himself so conscientiously to the tasks set him that his services soon came into great demand in his community, and by the exercise of unusual thrift he was enabled to procure a farm as a renter before he had reached the prime of life. He was successful in amassing sufficient capital to retire some years before his death. He met and married his wife in this country and to them were born seven children: Mary, Kate, Thomas, Sarah, Ella, Elizabeth and James J., with whom we are now concerned. Young James followed the regular curriculum in the public schools of Butler county; this finished, he went into farming with his father:

continuing with him until about 1892, when he and his brother, Thomas, rented the Rentschler farm in Fairfield township. The two brothers met with instant success, so much so in fact that in 1898 James was enabled to purchase a farm of his own in the same township. Later he removed to Liberty township, occupying the Clawson farm for seven years, when he took over his present farm of 160 acres, known as the Paul Scudder farm. He does a general farming business but specializes in stock raising, feeding on an average about 150 head of high-grade hogs annually and a considerable number of excellent cattle. He has always taken a keen interest in the welfare of his township and county. His breadth of view and his clear insight into public conditions, affecting his fellow citizens, has singled him out for public office which took the form of his being selected as Democratic Central Committeeman of Liberty township, an office he still holds. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. In 1900, Mr. Dorsey was married to Louise Daugherty and they have three children: James, who graduated from Hamilton High school in 1918; Carrie; and Blanche.

Charles Wesley Pitman Doty. In the death of Charles Wesley Pitman Doty, in September, 1907, Middletown lost a citizen who had contributed largely to its wealth of character and purpose, and who, because of his absolute integrity, a trained mind and pronounced business tendencies, had been a valuable factor in the formation of various of its enterprises. He was one of the forecasters of the present prosperity of the thriving community, and as far as lay in his power lent his hands and brain in aid of a realization of his faith. Mr. Doty was born at Rock Island, Ill., February 7, 1841, a son of Daniel C. and Catherine (Crane) Doty, natives of New Jersey. Daniel C. Doty's first marriage was with a Miss Mary Burgess, also of New Jersey, and three children were born to that union: Randall, Marcus and John. By his second wife he had five children: Aretus, George, deceased, who was a brick mason and contractor of Middletown; Charles W. P.; Joseph C., deceased, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work; and Daniel, a resident of Dayton. Daniel C. Doty, who was familiarly known as "Uncle Daniel," came to Middletown at an early day in its history and immediately interested himself in a large number of enterprises. He was the owner of a large tract of land, on which he carried on farming operations, also boated down the Mississippi in the early days, conducted a large brick yard, and followed other lines of business, his varied abilities and intense energy carrying him into various enterprises, all of which profited by his co-operation. He was a kind and generous man, not alone in his family, but in his general dealings with his fellow-men, and many a poor man was given an opportunity to make a start by his benefactions. He was a Democrat, although not a political aspirant for position. Mrs. Doty was a member of the Methodist church, and her husband, while not affiliated with any denomination, was a generous donator to all churches and to all worthy enterprises, civic, religious, educational or moral. He died in 1873, greatly respected and esteemed, while his widow survived him until 1901. Charles W. P. Doty was educated in the home

schools and was brought up under influences which made for industry and honesty, and under his father's guidance learned the rudiments of business. He was married October 6, 1864, to Miss Jane Kyle, a daughter of John and Ursula Kyle, the former born at Kinsman, Trumbull county, and the latter in Butler county, where they were married. Mr. Kyle located at Amanda, O., where he established himself as proprietor of a grocery. For some years prior to his death, Mr. Kyle was in ill health, and his demise occurred in 1881, when he was seventy-four, Mrs. Kyle surviving him until 1896 when she passed away at the age of seventy-seven. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their two daughters were: Emily, the widow of William Story, of Dayton; and Mrs. Doty. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Doty: Emma, who married George A. Shepard, a millwright of Dayton and has two children, Mark W., who was connected with the American Expeditionary Force, in France; and Ruth Marie, a teacher in the public schools; and Dr. Edgar Evans Doty, who was educated at Middletown and the Ohio Medical college, was an interne at the Jewish hospital one year, and in 1897 went to Red Lodge, Mont., where he engaged in practice until his death in October, 1910. Mrs. Doty is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Middletown. After his marriage, Charles W. P. Doty continued in business with his father for many years, and after the elder man's death continued in the business of manufacturing brick. Also he was engaged in selling wagons and buggies at different points in Ohio for eighteen years, but his health finally failed, and about 1897 he retired from active pursuits. From that time forward he lived quietly at his comfortable home at Middletown, where death overtook him, in September, 1907, when he was sixty-six years of age. Mr. Doty was a Democrat in politics and served as a member of the board of equalization for some years in addition to holding other positions of trust. As a fair-minded man and honorable, gentle in his judgment of others, he was the recipient of long and lasting friendships. Mrs. Doty, who survives him, and resides at her pleasant home at No. 607 Yankee road, Middletown, is one who has the esteem and friendship of a wide circle of acquaintances, and is highly regarded in the community in which she has made her home for so many years.

Joseph C. Doty. A promoter of industry, for many years identified with business ventures at Middletown, a public-spirited citizen and one of the most efficient officials his community has known, the late Joseph C. Doty was one of the interesting and attractive personalities who in the past lent worth and distinction to his community and who drew from its opportunities and environment the essentials of a broad and public-spirited life. Mr. Doty was born at Middletown, November 3, 1847, a son of Daniel C. and Catherine (Crane) Doty, the latter of New Jersey. His father was one of the early settlers of the Middletown community, where he owned a large tract of land, and in the early days, in addition to farming, boated on the Mississippi river and also carried on a large business in the manufacture of brick. He was twice married, and his children

by his second wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Crane, were: Aritas, of Hamilton, O.; George L., deceased; Chas. W. P., deceased; Daniel, of Dayton; and Joseph C. Joseph C. Doty received his education in the public schools of Middletown, and as a youth was initiated into the secrets of business life under the guidance of his father. He proved an apt pupil and readily assimilated the elder man's teachings, so that when he was ready to seek the experiences and rewards of an independent life was well prepared for such action. He was married December 31, 1872, to Miss Mary E. Smith, who was born at St. Marys, O., a daughter of Aaron A. and Rachael Smith, natives of the same community, highly respected farming people and devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that both of Mrs. Doty's parents lived to the advanced age of ninety-two years. There were six children in the Smith family: Charles H., a gardener of St. Marys; Matilda Jane, the wife of Charles McKee, of that place; Eliza F., deceased, who was a farmer at St. Marys; Mary E., now Mrs. Doty; Rettca, the wife of Byron Wolam, on the old Smith homestead; and Flora, the widow of William Chambers, of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Doty were the parents of four children: Arthur F., a confectioner of Middletown, who is single and resides with his mother; Loretta Estella, who died in 1911 as the wife of Frank Diver, of Middletown, leaving four sons, Norval, Paul, Franklin and Donald; Daniel C., of the Big Four railroad, who married Eunice Shirer and has four children, Estom, Joseph, Aaron and Virginia May; and Fern Alma, who married William Lewis and has one son, Carroll Edwin. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Doty located at 1010 Yankee road, Middletown, on the same site as the home occupied by Mr. Doty's father, and where Mrs. Doty still resides. Mr. Doty remodeled the house and made many improvements, adding much to the property both in value and attractiveness. The early promise which he had shown in a business way was fully realized, for he rose to be one of the substantial and well-to-do manufacturers of the city, being extensively engaged in the brick and ice business and developing his enterprises to large proportions. The integrity which he displayed in business affairs and which was manifest in all his transactions with his fellow-men caused him to gain an established place in public confidence, with the result that he was frequently called upon to fill offices of civic and general trust. He was the incumbent of a number of positions, including that of trustee of the Middletown water works, and his entire record in office was one which reflected credit upon himself and his community. Mr. Doty was a Democratic voter, and his fraternal affiliation was with the Knights of Pythias, in which he had numerous friends, as he had, in fact, in all walks of life.

J. L. Douglass, the secretary of the H. S. Coulter Transfer company, of Oxford, was born in Oxford township, a son of Isaiah and Anna (Patterson) Douglass, on May 21, 1864. Isaiah Douglass, a farmer of Oxford township, was the father of five children: J. L., Elizabeth, deceased; Zada; S. L., and W. C. Douglass. Zada married Cliff Schultz, of College Corner. S. L. Douglass resides at

home, and W. C. Douglass is living in California. J. L. Douglass attended the Miami university preparatory school, and later engaged in farming for himself in Oxford township, until 1909, when he moved to Oxford, where he conducted a meat business. In 1914 he met with an accident that nearly cost him his life. While crossing a railroad track in a buggy, it was struck by a fast train, and Mr. Douglass received serious injuries which incapacitated him from business for two years. In 1916 he entered the business of H. S. Coulter, the transfer company owner, and became treasurer of the business. In 1885 he married Anna Styhr, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Styhr, of Oxford. To this union were born the following children: Dwight, Elizabeth Lenore, Frieda, and Inez Marie. Dwight was a student of the McGuffey school of Oxford, and after finishing school, became identified with the Maxwell Motor company of Dayton, Ohio. While engaged in work there, he entered the United States Army, joining the infantry, and received training at Camp Jackson, South Carolina, where he rose to the rank of sergeant and after the cessation of hostilities was honorably discharged with a splendid record. He re-entered the employ of the Maxwell Motor company, and is at the company's offices in Detroit. Elizabeth Lenore Douglass married LeRoy McCrary, and resides in Israel township, Preble county. To them have been born three children: Robert, Verna, and Ralph. Frieda Douglass was married to Otto Krauss, and lives at Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Douglass and family are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of the K. P. lodge. He was very liberal in his aid to local war relief organizations, and was active in many patriotic lines.

Charles M. Downey. Prominent among the lives and energetic citizens of Middletown, Charles M. Downey is worthy of mention. Since coming to this city, in 1911, he has been identified with the American Rolling Mill plant, where he is now occupied as a roller, and is accounted one of the reliable and trustworthy employees of this great concern. He was born at Martins Ferry, Ohio, a son of Robert and Julia (Dunigan) Downey. His maternal grandparents were Bridget Lynch and Bryan Dunigan. His parents were natives of Ireland. The father came to the United States when twelve years of age and mother when a small child, and located in the vicinity of Wheeling, W. Va. Removing then to Martins Ferry, Ohio, Robert Downey established himself in the hardware and tinware business, with which he was connected until his death, September 12, 1906. He was a capable and highly respected business man, and a veteran of the Civil war, having been a sergeant in the 1st West Virginia Infantry. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Robert Downey came to Middletown, where she now resides at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Alice Leasure. Charles M. Downey was educated in the public schools of Martins Ferry, was reared in that community, and there learned his trade. Likewise he took a prominent part in civic affairs, and became a leader of the Republican party, being elected a member of the city council in which he served for years. During the early days he was also a member of the Independent Hose company, of Martins Ferry. This famous organization, which

was widely known to the fire laddies of several decades ago, won the championship belt, valued at $1,000, which was presented by Richard K. Fox, the well-known New York sportsman, in the meet of the various hose companies held at Atlanta, Ga., in 1895, the company being also presented with $250 in gold. In 1911, Mr. Downey came to Middletown and entered the employ of the American Rolling mill, where he now discharges the duties of a roller. He is popular with his fellow-employees, as he is also with his fellow-members in the Masons and Knights Templar. Politically he continues to adhere staunchly to the principles of the Republican party, and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. After residing at Middletown for three months, Mr. Downey returned to Martins Ferry, where he was married December 16, 1911, to Lillian M., daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Muldrew) Hammond, the former of whom, a Civil war veteran, died in 1882, and the latter in 1881. Mrs. Downey also sustained another sad loss, in 1918, when, during the epidemic of influenza which swept the country, her favorite nephew, Earl, only near relative, son of William Hammond, was stricken with that disease. He had been a frequent visitor at the home of his aunt and uncle, to whom he was devotedly attached, and his death, which occurred at Martins Ferry, Va., was a great blow to them. Mrs. Downey is a woman of very attractive personality, as well as a charming hostess, and the pleasant modern home on Third street is frequently the scene of social gatherings at which are present the numerous friends of this popular couple.

Samuel Dowrey, jr., an employee of the American Rolling Mill company, is a son of Samuel and Anna (Blevens) Dowrey, and was born in Hamilton, Ohio, March 3, 1890. His parents are still living, and he has two brothers, both in Ohio: Glenn, in Hamilton, and Donald, in Middletown. He was married October 1, 1908, to Emma Jane Cheadle, daughter of Daniel W., and Mayme (Nelson) Cheadle, who are still living and are parents of three other children: Margaret Louise, Andrew and Nellie, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Dowrey have no children. For the past fifteen years, Mr. Dowrey has been an open hearth charging machine operator for the American Rolling Mill company. He is a man of much versatility and possesses in a marked degree both poetical ability and inventive genius. Many of his poems have appeared in the American Rolling Mill company bulletin, and among his inventions are a stopper rod and a hand soap called "Swat." Mr. Dowrey purchased a magnificent stucco house on Queen street which is the family home, and in which he takes great delight. He is a member of the United Brethren church, and announces himself politically as a liberal.

William C. Dowty. There has been no one man connected with the Hamilton Fire department to which the city is more indebted for practical and permanent improvements than to William C. Dowty, chief of the department from 1905 until his retirement in 1917, and a member of this body of fire-fighters for a period of thirty-eight years. He won promotion to the head of his department both because of his fearlessness in the line of duty and his executive ability, and his earnestness, honesty and absolute fidelity retained him in

office through several changes of administration and party managements. The final result of his faithful and progressive service was not only to firmly establish him in the confidence of the local public, but to give him a widespread reputation on all matters connected with fire-fighting. William C. Dowty, whose death occurred May 7, 1919, was born at Hamilton, November 14, 1855, a son of J. Wilson and Ann (Mathias) Dowty. His maternal grandfather was Isaac Mathias, who was born near Venice, Ohio, and was always a resident of Butler county, where he followed the business of tinsmith. His daughter, Mrs. Dowty, died in February, 1895, at the age of sixty years, in the faith of the Universalist church. J. Wilson Dowty was born near Venice, Ohio, a member of a family that originated in Virginia. As a young man he moved to Hamilton, was the owner of farm lands on Mount Pleasant pike, and was prominent in Democratic politics, serving at one time as clerk of Butler county, and for some years as constable at Hamilton. He died in 1862, at the age of thirty-two years. He and his wife were the parents of four children: one who died in infancy; William C.; Eliza F., who died in 1911, as the wife of Christian Eberling of Hamilton; and James Wilson, a tinner by trade, who served as constable and night watchman, and died in 1914, leaving a widow to survive him, she having borne the maiden name of Sallie Sutter. William C. Dowty received his education in the public schools of Hamilton. Following his father's death, his grandmother Dowty reared the children, and lived with the mother, and William C. Dowty began to learn the tinner's trade, with I. & J. Mathias, by whom he was employed six years. For five years he worked for Colonel Elliott, proprietor of the Still House, as engineer, and then spent two years on Colonel Elliott's farm. In 1880 he was appointed a member of the Hamilton Fire department and assigned to the Number One's. He immediately proved his worth as a fire-fighter, especially in the days of the old fire engine, before Hamilton boasted of a city waterworks. He had started as a pipeman, but a few years later was promoted to the captaincy of the One's and continued to serve in that capacity until 1903, when he was made fire marshal of the department under its reorganization. In this capacity he served under Chief Adam Baker and upon the death of the latter two years later, Mr. Dowty was chosen as his successor. A better choice could not have been made, for under his leadership the fire department of Hamilton was well disciplined, made thoroughly competent and brought to the front as one of the best fire-fighting forces in the state. Chief Dowty remained at the head of the department until December 31, 1917, when, because of failing health, he retired to enjoy a well-earned rest. From that time forward he devoted his time to his home, his family and his friends, and seemed greatly to enjoy the freedom which had become his. His death occurred May 7, 1919, at his home, after a brief illness following hemorrhages caused by ulcer of the stomach. In speaking editorially of his death, the Hamilton Evening Journal said in part, as follows: "In the death of William C. Dowty, Hamilton has lost a most worthy citizen. He proved his worth by his public service and for thirty-eight years he was a mem-

ber of the fire department. In whatsoever capacity he served in this important branch of the city service, Mr. Dowty met every duty and responsibility faithfully and without hesitation. Later when advancement came to him, he studied the duties devolving upon him; made a study of what the people demanded of him and never faltered in the face of duty. He understood building construction, he understood the causes of fires, and knowing the causes he was able to fight a fire with marked generalship. As chief of the fire department Mr. Dowty led his men. He never ordered a man to go where he feared to go himself. His men trusted him, believed in him and they obeyed his commands. Some of Hamilton's most serious fires were fought under the direction of Mr. Dowty and in numerous instances his ability won the battle with the flames. And so in the death of William C. Dowty Hamilton has lost a citizen who gave the best years of his life to the public service and in those years won and held the confidence, the respect and good will of the people of the city generally." Fraternally Mr. Dowty was connected with Esther Court No. 4, Tribe of Ben Hur. His religious affiliation was with the Reformed church. January 7, 1876, Mr. Dowty married Helen Cecelia, daughter of William and Isabella (Coleman) Rutter, of Princeton, Ohio. Mrs. Rutter, who was the second wife of her husband, was born at Germantown, Ohio, her parents being natives of Pennsylvania. William Rutter was a native of Venice, Ohio, and a shoemaker by trade. During the Civil war he enlisted from Kentucky was wounded in battle, and died and was buried at Chattanooga, Tenn. Later his widow moved to Hamilton, where she died in 1889, in the faith of the Lutheran church. Of the seven children in the Rutter family, two died in infancy, the others being: Catherine, who died January 13, 1918, as the wife of the late Jacob Sebastian, who resided at Logansport and Terre Haute, Ind.; John Q., who married Laura Bryan, was a painter and decorator of Ada, Ohio, and died in 1917, leaving his widow to survive him; William, a shoemaker of Cincinnati, who married Josephine Starks; Mrs. Dowty; and Anna L., the wife of William Spivey. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dowty, of whom four survive: Bessie, a graduate of the Hamilton High school, who also attended school at Wooster, Ohio, and now a teacher in the public schools of Hamilton; Pearl, also a teacher here, educated in the home schools and one term at Heidelberg college; Nina, a teacher of domestic science at Newport, Ky., educated at Hamilton, Newport, Lexington, Ky., and Oxford, Ohio; and Josephine, who is a graduate of the local schools and now at Toledo, where she is studying to be a trained nurse. Mrs. Dowty, who survives her husband and has numerous friends at Hamilton, resides at the pleasant family home, No. 318 N. D street, Hamilton.

Martin Druck, a leading citizen of Hanover township and one of the representative and honored residents of the Hamilton community, has been identified with the agricultural and business interests of this section for a number of years. He was born at Millville, Butler county, Ohio, September 27, 1872, a son of John and Mary (Denzler) Druck. His paternal grandfather, Charles Druck,

brought his family to the United States when his son, John, was a lad of eight years, the family first locating at Hamilton and then settling on a farm near the present property of Martin Druck. The Denzler family also came from Germany and first settled at Covington, Ky., where Mary Denzler was born, but subsequently moved to a farm near Hamilton, where she met and married Mr. Druck. After their marriage they spent a short time at Millville and then settled down to farming on the present property of Martin Druck, but are now retired from active pursuits and make their comfortable home on Central avenue, Hamilton. They became the parents of six children: Charles, of Hamilton; Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, of that city; Martin; Mrs. Charles Protzman, of Hamilton; Susan, who is single and resides with her parents; and Mrs. Addie Coffer, of St. Clair township. Martin Druck obtained his education in the Blue Grass school and was reared on the home farm, which has always been his home. He has developed the property systematically and practically and has made numerous improvements, thereby making the property a valuable one. He carries on general farming and has met with success in stock raising, being at this time the owner of seventeen fine Holsteins. Everything pertaining to the public good receives his hearty endorsement and he is justly considered a public-spirited citizen and one who did his full share in supporting war activities during the time when this country was engaged in the great struggle overseas. Mr. Druck was married in March, 1904, to Bertha, daughter of C. and Lucy Moyer, of Troy, Ohio, who were formerly prominent farming people of Butler county. Mr. and Mrs. Druck are the parents of three children: Edgar, born in 1905; Althea, born in 1907; and Lucille, born in 1908.

William Pierre DuChemin, who is foreman of the culvert department of the American Rolling mill at Middletown, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, a son of John William and Margaret (Rowland) DuChemin, and a descendant of an old and honorable French family. His father, who was born in France, emigrated to the United States in young manhood, prior to the Civil war, in which struggle he fought three years and nine months as a soldier of the Union and advanced to the rank of captain. Following the close of the war he located at Cincinnati, where he married Margaret Rowland, who died in 1883, Mr. DuChemin surviving her until 1901. There were two children in the family: William Pierre, of this notice; and Elizabeth, the widow of the late Dr. Glenn Miller, a practising physician of Oklahoma until his recent death. William P. DuChemin received his education in the public schools of Cincinnati, where he also learned his trade, and about 1900 came to Middletown, at the opening of the American Rolling mill. He was skilled at his vocation, steady in his work, reliable and trustworthy in the performance of his duties and always industrious, and gradually earned promotion to the position of foreman of the culvert department, a position which he has held for the past ten years. As a voter he supports Republican candidates and principles, and his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. DuChemin married Carrie, daughter of Ezra Clark and Kate (Hirsch) Hinkle, and to this union there

have been born three children: Ruth Dell, William Glenn and Eloise May. The last-named, who is a student at the Middletown High school, possesses a beautiful voice, and is also a gifted performer on the piano. The comfortable and tastefully furnished home of the DuChemin's is located at 710 Baltimore street. In Mrs. DuChemin's family there were five children: Della May, the wife of E. Huntsbarger; Edith, the wife of Jacob Miller; Joe Alvin; Charles Edward; and Jim, who was in the United States Army and since his return has been engaged in the grocery business at Lakeside.

Louis Duemer. Of the men who now occupy positions of importance in the manufacturing world of Hamilton, few have better claims to the title of self-made man than has Louis Duemer, president of Louis Duemer & Sons. When he arrived in this country as a young man, he was possessed of little capital save that represented by his earnest determination and boundless ambition, and his willingness to work at whatever honorable occupation presented itself. From this modest beginning he has worked his way to the head of an important industry which is recognized as a leading factor in the field of pattern making and furnace manufacturing. Mr. Duemer was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1856, a son of J. and Sophia Duemer. His education was of the public school variety and three years spent in the Free Trades school at the City of Hamburg, and until he was twenty-five years of age he lived in his native place, being variously employed. Being of an ambitious nature, and not seeing any great future ahead of him, he came to the United States in 1881, and at once choosing Hamilton as the field for his success, secured employment at the Shortman & Blum Furniture factory. There he worked at his trade of cabinet maker for one year and subsequently was employed as a pattern maker by the Long & Allstatter company, and later by the Niles Tool works, the Gordon Maxwell Pump company and the Estate Stove works. While employed at the latter plant he made patterns for one of the first gas stoves in the United States. Mr. Duemer embarked in business on his own account in 1890, and by 1900 found it necessary to build the present modern plant on Central avenue, where a force of men of the highest skill are given employment in making patterns and manufacturing furnaces. In the latter connection Mr. Duemer has made patterns for some of the largest stove and furnace manufacturers in this country, and many of the best stoves and ranges used in a large part of this country were designed by him. A specialty of the company is the Hamilton All-Cast Double Radiator Furnace, for pipe or pipeless systems. For nearly thirty years the firm of Louis Duemer & Sons has successfully designed and built patterns for furnaces, heaters, coal, gas and wood stoves and ranges, and the specialty referred to is the result of long years of experience and specialized study. The furnaces of this company are built on scientific and practical principles, and careful attention has been given to the different parts, so as to make them of such shape and form as is adapted to get the greatest possible efficiency and durability. Mr. Duemer is widely known in business circles as a man of the highest principles and strictest integrity, and in his long career has never

committed an act which would betray the confidence of his associates or the public. He has a number of important business, social and civic connections, and in his wide acquaintance numbers many sincere friends. In 1882 he was united in marriage with Marie Shafer, and they are the parents of four sons and one daughter, three sons, Carl, Louis and Walter being associated in the business with their father.

Charles J. Duersch, who, with his brother, William, manages the large coal concern established by their father, at 448 Main street, Hamilton, is one of the alert business men of this city. The father, Adolph Duersch, was born in Germany, where he was married to Friedricka Brooks, also a native of Germany. Leaving Germany, they came to the United States, and arrived here before the close of the Civil war. Like so many of his countrymen during that trying period in America's history, Adolph Duersch became a soldier in the Union army, and served his adopted country faithfully until peace was declared. A tanner by trade, Adolph Duersch found remunerative employment at it until 1885, when he founded the coal business at Hamilton, now carried on by his sons, Charles J. and William, having himself passed away some years ago. At one time Adolph Duersch served as a member of the board of equalization of Hamilton, and was valued by his associates on it because of his sound judgment and sincere honesty. He and his wife had seven children, of whom six survive, namely: Mary, Minnie and Katie, all of whom reside with their widowed mother at Hamilton; William, who married and has three children, and is now living at Hamilton; George J., who married Ida Pierson, has one child, and also lives at Hamilton; and Charles J., whose name heads this review. Charles J. Duersch was reared at Hamilton and attended its schools, as did his brothers and sisters. June 28, 1916, he was united in marriage with Miss Emma Clements, a daughter of J. W. Clements, who lives on Ross avenue, Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Duersch attend the Methodist Episcopal church. He votes the Democratic ticket. The fraternal affiliations of Mr. Duersch are with the Elks and Eagles. It has been the policy of the two brothers to carry out their father's plans for the management of the business into which he put so much of his own individuality, and their customers have continued with them as they have realized that the sons intend to live up to the standards established by the elder man. The younger men are dependable citizens, who are held in high esteem at Hamilton and in the county, and they deserve their prosperity for it is founded upon honest dealing, prompt service and fair methods, and having won the confidence of their community, they are retaining it in a marked degree.

George J. Duersch. Since 1897 George J. Duersch has contributed to the commercial equipment of Hamilton a sound and substantial bicycle and electrical business, which was founded by him and which has developed consistently under his able direction. Mr. Duersch has won his success in his native city, for he was born at Hamilton, October 23, 1878, a son of Adolph and Friedricka (Brooks) Duersch. His father, born in Germany and there educat-

ed, was a young man when he emigrated to the United States during the period of the Civil war, and enlisted in the ranks of the Union army, with which he fought gallantly until the close of the struggle. At the finish of his military service, he took up the trade of tanner, which he had learned in his youth, and followed it until 1885, in which year he established himself in a coal business at No. 448 Main street, Hamilton, which, since his death has been under the management of his sons, William and Charles J. Mr. Duersch was a capable man of business, whose integrity was never questioned, and bore an equally good reputation as a citizen, his public activities having included service as a member of the board of equalization for several years. He and Mrs. Duersch, who survives him at Hamilton, had seven children, of whom six survive: Mary, Minnie and Katie, with whom their mother makes her home; William, who married, has three children, and lives at Hamilton; Charles J.; who married Emma Clements; and George J. George J. Duersch was educated in the graded schools, and, having shown a mechanical turn, started to work for hardware concerns where he thoroughly mastered all the details pertaining to the bicycle and electrical business. He was but twenty-one years of age when he purchased property at No. 22 North Third street, and established himself in business as the proprietor of an enterprise of his own. His start was modest and unassuming, but his good workmanship, fidelity to engagements and unfailing courtesy soon won him added and constantly increasing patronage, and today his establishment is considered in the light of a necessary commercial adjunct to the town's business houses. He has a complete and well selected stock of goods, tastefully arranged and properly priced, and is in a position to do all manner of work pertaining to the cycle and electrical business. Mr. Duersch's success has been self-attained and he is eminently worthy of the respect and confidence in which he is held. Mr. Duersch married Miss Ida Pierson, daughter of Enoch Pierson, an early settler of Hamilton, and to this union there has been born one son, aged three years. Mr. Duersch is the owner of his own comfortable home at No. 539 Park avenue. He and his wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church and have numerous friends therein, as they have throughout the city, where the family is well known.

John F. Duffield is one of the large landholders of Butler county and a dealer in real estate and his status as a business man and a citizen is typical of the material upon which his business rests and which has contributed materially to his success as a realty operator at Somerville. Mr. Duffield was born on a farm in Somers township, Preble county, Ohio, September 9, 1848, a son of James and Jane (McClung) Duffield. His father was a native of Pennsylvania, who was educated in the public schools and came to Ohio as a young man, settling at a location northeast of Collinsville after his marriage, his wife being a native of near Millville, this state. When he made his start in life his cash capital consisted of but fifty cents, to which was added his great ambition and determination. After renting land for several years, he went to Preble county,

where he purchased land in Somers township, one and one-fourth miles north of Somerville. There he cultivated his land and added thereto, became one of the substantial agriculturists of his community, and in the evening of life moved to a comfortable home at Somerville, where his death occurred in 1903, when he was eighty-six years of age. Mrs. Duffield, who died in 1900, had reached the advanced age of ninety-one years. In addition to being a skilled and scientific farmer, Mr. Duffield was a progressive and practical stockman, and in 1850 brought the first Poland China hogs into Preble county. He was originally a Republican, but later transferred his allegiance to the Democratic party. He and Mrs. Duffield were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, and the parents of five children: Mary Elizabeth, who is deceased; Eliza Jane, the wife of Samuel Shellenberger; John F.; George, a farmer near Eaton, Ohio; and Sallie, who died April 24, 1905. George F. Duffield was educated in the public schools of Preble county and reared on his father's farm, but as a young man, like many other farmer's sons, was attracted by railroading, and went to Kansas City, Mo., where he secured employment with the Missouri Pacific railroad. Later he was with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas (Katy) railroad and the Union Pacific railroad, his railroad experience covering the period from 1867 to 1879, during which time for five years he was a conductor on a passenger train running out of Kansas City. Returning home in the latter year, he became associated in business with his father, of whose interests he took charge, and at once commenced the breeding of Poland China hogs on an extensive scale, developing steadily into one of the foremost men in his line in the country. His stock was exhibited at county fairs, state fairs and live stock expositions at Detroit, Mich.; St. Louis, Mo., throughout Indiana and Ohio, and at Carthage, Mo., and won numerous prizes and ribbons. In 1905, he removed his home to Somerville and began dealing in realty, a field in which he has also won great and well-merited success. Ready adaptation to opportunity, a capacity for gauging the possibility of increase in values and the well developed speculative instinct which places the natural broker in a class by himself, have been factors in Mr. Duffield's success. Since taking up his home at Somerville, Mr. Duffield has spent his winters in Florida. May 15, 1875, Mr. Duffield married Alice Stawpert, of Atchison, Kans., who died in October, 1882, leaving one son, Henry Frank, born April 19, 1880, in Preble county, educated in the home schools at Seven Mile, Ohio, and in 1903 married Edith Reed of West Elkton. Mr. Duffield's (the elder) present wife was formerly Eva I., daughter of James Young of Somerville. Mr. and Mrs. Duffield are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is active in local Republican political affairs, but not an office seeker, and his fraternal connection is with the Knights of Pythias. In various movements Mr. Duffield has evidenced commendable public spirit and zeal, and all his commercial transactions have been guided by probity, sagacity and good judgment.

Charles Duncan was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, Feb-

ruary 16, 1846, son of James and Isabelle (Stuart) Duncan. James Duncan and Isabelle Stuart were married in Scotland, and to them were born six children: Janet, Charles, James, John, Alexandriana, and Alexander, all of whom were born in Scotland. After coming to the United States three other children were born to them: Margaret, Isabelle, and David. James Duncan emigrated with his family to this country, settled in Champaign county, Ohio, lived there the remainder of his life, and was buried in that county. Charles Duncan was the only member of the family who ever lived in Butler county. After leaving the district schools, in which he received his education, he engaged in farm work, but later became a teacher, for twelve years taught school in Champaign county, and then returned to the farm. In December, 1879, he was married to Emma R. Chambers, daughter of Enoch and Mary Ann (Moore) Chambers, of Fairfield township. These children were born in the family of Enoch Chambers: Harriet, Mrs. Ames; Orpha, Mrs. Treudley; Emma, wife of the subject of this sketch; Lydia, Mrs. Mills; whose husband, Stephen A. Mills, served four years in the Civil war; Sallie, Mrs. Miller; Cora, Mrs. Sweet, whose son, Howard, was in the U. S. Army during the World war. Enoch Chambers and his wife Mary Ann are deceased, the former dying in 1886 and the latter in 1886, and are buried in Greenwood cemetery. After their marriage, Charles Duncan and his wife lived in Champaign county, and in 1886 moved to a farm of eighty-three acres in Fairfield township, Butler county. They continue to live on the same farm, but through well-sustained efforts, good management and thrifty methods, that acreage has been increased to an even two hundred. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan are the parents of three daughters: Edith, Mrs. Burer, has a daughter, Janet, living in Fairfield township; Nellie, who attended Glendale college; and Mary, Mrs. Moran, a graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and Glendale college, and now lives in New Hampshire. Mr. Duncan is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian church, and has done much war work, having been captain of his precinct team in every drive that was made.

John W. Durrough, prominent in Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, as brick manufacturer, real estate and one time police magistrate, who died at that place March 4, 1911, was sincerely mourned. The remains were laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery, Hamilton, the Rev. A. B. Austin officiating. He was born June 27, 1850, a son of Stephen and Abagialt Durrough, who were old and respected residents of Ohio and Butler county. The father was one of the old-time well-builders of Hamilton and a man who understood thoroughly every phase of his business. His first venture in the business world, and one which proved his determined nature, was that of a brick manufacturer in Hamilton, and from the outset he met with success. Previous to starting in business for himself he had learned the brick making trade at the Leffler brick yard. His brick yard covered four acres of land on West Second street, Hamilton. Later he purchased the brick business of his brother and conducted this for about ten years. He became impressed with the possibilities of contracting and engaged in this line, also giving attention to real

estate. He continued in these activities until his death. Among his best known jobs was the laying out of the Durrough-Campbell addition in East Hamilton. During the period that he served as justice of the peace in Hamilton, he made a most enviable record and won the admiration of all for the fairness with which he dispensed justice. When he left this office the opinion was expressed generally among the legal fraternity that he had been one of the most efficient justice's of the peace that had ever held that office in Hamilton. July 25, 1885, he married Miss Margaret Gilmore, who was a daughter of W. S. Gilmore, one of the highly respected citizens of Hamilton. The latter's wife's name was Braden. The uniting of John W. Durrough and wife in matrimony linked two of the representative families of Hamilton. To Mr. and Mrs. Durrough, were born Miss A., who became the wife of Louis J. Campbell of Cincinnati, and who is the mother of two children, Miss Cora and Magdaline Durrough; and James Wilson. Mr. Durrough had always been a Democrat in politics and it was said that throughout his life he was always known for his loyalty to his party. He was considered a good campaigner and his services in this regard were eagerly sought. He was also a consistent churchgoer and had membership in the United Brethren.

Henry S. Earhart. Among the best known, most enterprising and highly regarded agriculturists of Oxford township, Butler county, Ohio, is Mr. H. S. Earhart, who owns sixty-seven and one-half acres of the most productive farming land in that section of the state. He is typical of the Ohio farmer, being energetic and keeping pace with the times and the success that he has had with his land has been well merited. Mr. Earhart was born in Preble county, Ohio, the eldest son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Search) Earhart. There were thirteen children. He attended school at Jericho and later went to Kansas with his brother-in-law. In 1870 he returned to Ohio and after a short period departed for Casey, Ill., where he engaged in the hardware business for three years with Richard Young as partner. He realized that new and profitable opportunities awaited him in the farming industry and accordingly returned to Butler county to occupy the large and promising tract of land which has since proved so productive. Benjamin Earhart was born in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio in 1821. He witnessed the transformation of thousands of acres of prairie land into fertile farms and took an active interest in furthering the agricultural prestige of this great state and accordingly during his time was known as one of the most enterprising farmers of his section. Mrs. Earhart was born in Casey, Clark county, Ill. His parents were early settlers, of Scotch-Irish descent and were of Revolutionary and 1812 War stock. Henry Earhart married Maggie Strong of Clark county, Ill., in 1876, and to them were born six children: James, Daisy, Sina, Maud, Jeannette and Eunice. In addition to farming Mr. Earhart has found time to engage in other activities which have proved decidedly profitable. In politics Mr. Earhart is a Democrat and in religion a Methodist. During the World war he exerted himself to the utmost in the various activities of his community which would aid Uncle Sam and the allies in making the world safe for democ-

racy and the results of his work are best exemplified in the achievements of Butler county in the various Liberty Loan campaigns and other important work.

Charles F. Early. Located on the West Middletown and Poast Town road in Butler county is found the highly improved and fertile farm belonging to Charles F. Early, one of the progressive and practical agriculturists of the Miami valley. This worthy and enterprising citizen has passed his entire life in this region, having been born at Springboro, Warren county, Ohio, a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Pence) Early. The Early family is well known in the Miami valley, having come during pioneer days from Virginia to this part of Ohio, where its members have been helpful factors in the development of what has become a prosperous and highly cultured region, and have controlled large tracts of land. There were four children in the family of Isaac and Elizabeth Early: Howard; Will; Charles F.; and Cora, who married E. A. Wellbaum, of Miamisburg. Charles F. Early attended the public schools of Warren county and was later sent to the celebrated Miami Valley college, where he was a student two terms, at Springboro. He began his independent career as a farmer, and has worked his way to the management of 150 acres of land, which formerly comprised the Temple Barklow farm. This he conducts for general farming purposes, operating a dairy business in connection with a herd of splendid Holstein cattle. He has a splendid set of buildings, including a handsome home, which has been completely remodeled since Mr. Early took over the management, and which is furnished in a manner appropriate to the tastes of a cultured and well-educated family. Mr. Early is a Democrat, but has been only a voter and not a politician or office seeker. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has succeeded in his career, not only as a farmer who has made his labors return him a splendid profit for his investment, but as a man who has established an excellent reputation in business circles and as a citizen who has won and held public esteem because of the stand he has taken on questions of public and community importance. January 6, 1885, Mr. Early was united in marriage with Margaret Catherine, daughter of Ambrose and Margaret (Bean) Dearth, and to this union there have been born two sons: Ernest R., who married Marie Temple, daughter of Albert, and Louise Speidel Temple; and Warren, who resides with his parents. Mrs. Early had seven brothers and sisters: Louella; Newton; Mary E., who married L. E. Somers, of Greenville, Ohio; Henry S., of Springboro, Ohio; Anna, deceased; Clement, of Centerville, Ohio; Keturah, who married William Rickard and now lives in California. Mrs. Early's great-grandfather, Edward Dearth, married Elizabeth Roberts, the former a native of Fayette county, Pa., and the latter of Virginia. Edward Dearth was a minister of the Christian faith who did not believe in ministers receiving remuneration for their services, and whose labors therefore were always without pay. The grandparents of Mrs. Early were Samuel and Keturah (Townsend) Dearth, natives of Pennsylvania, who migrated to Ohio and located in Warren county in 1798. They were among the true pioneers of the Miami valley,

and during the early days endured all the hardships and privations incidental to the log cabin days. Mr. Dearth, from small beginnings, made subsequent purchases of land until he had 1150 acres in one body, as well as 1100 acres in other parcels, and was accounted a prosperous man for his day and locality.

James Eberhart. The late James Eberhart, who, if anyone ever deserved the appellation of self-made man, was fully entitled to that characterization, and who was long a conspicuous figure in the agricultural annals of Butler county, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1828. He was a son of Frederick Eberhart, also a native of the Keystone state, who came to Ohio as an early settler, and after a short stay at Miltonville located at Blue Ball, where he continued to be engaged in farming during the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of thirteen children, of whom but two survive: Sophia, the widow of B. Carr, of Middletown; and Mrs. Mary Van Rutan, of Chicago, Ill. James Eberhart attended the public schools of Trenton, but his opportunities for obtaining an education were limited, as on account of the expense incident to the maintenance of so large a family, he found it necessary to assist his parents by working diligently, and a large part of his youth was passed in assisting to clear the home farm. He lived at home until the time of his marriage, February 2, 1871, to Mrs. Lucinda Helwig, the widow of Henry Helwig and a daughter of Abe and Elizabeth Galloway, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Galloway came to Ohio as a small boy, his parents settling near Hamilton or Seven Mile, and later going to Marshall, Ill., where they secured land and passed the rest of their lives in farming. Mr. Galloway was a Democrat, a good citizen and a kind father. His wife was a devout member of the old school Baptist church, and their ten children were reared in that faith: Mrs. Eberhart; John, Rhoda, William, Martin and Thomas, all residents of Illinois; Jackson, of Lewisville, Ind.; Mary Ann, who lives in the West; and Hannah and Elizabeth, who are deceased. By her first marriage, Mrs. Eberhart has two children: William Helwig, who for the past seven years has been a railroad engineer in South America; and Elizabeth, the wife of Leander Scheideler, who was a school teacher of Hamilton, O., and who died June 1, 1919, and was buried at Hamilton. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Scheideler: Professor William, of Oxford university, and James Leslie, a druggist of Detroit, Mich. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Eberhart purchased a farm of 170 acres near Blue Ball, which they proceeded to develop and on which they made numerous improvements. In 1893 they retired from active labor and took up their residence at Middletown, where they became highly esteemed among the people of the community. It was their practice to spend the winters at Lake Worth, Fla., and it was on one of these trips that the death of Mr. Eberhart occurred, in February, 1917, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Mr. Eberhart was a Republican in politics, and although never an aspirant for official position, always took an intelligent and lively interest in public affairs and current events. He was a man of acute mental powers, keen perception, sound judgment and indomitable

energy. He will long be remembered as one of the most diligent, reliable and successful farmers and stock raisers of his locality. He and his wife belonged to the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, and Mrs. Eberhart, who is in her eighty-fourth year and very spry for her age, still adheres to this faith. She is surrounded by all the comforts of life at her home, 534 East Third street, Middletown, is still vigorous and vivacious, and is distinguished by her many graces of mind and heart. She is a very estimable woman, and is held in cordial regard by numerous friends.

Marcus Eck. From the year 1900 until his death, in April, 1916, the late Marcus Eck was identified with the farming interests of Madison township, Butler county, and during this time definitely established the fact that his years of connection with other ventures had not made it impossible for him to successfully follow the vocation of his youth. Mr. Eck was born in Madison township, September 12, 1859, a son of Levi and Eliza (Gingrich) Eck. His father, who was born June 14, 1827, near Tarrytown, Ind., was an early settler of Butler county, locating on the Joshua Fall farm, and later purchased the farm in section 20, Madison township, on which the remainder of his life was passed. He married Eliza Gingrich, and they became the parents of eight children: Sylvanus, of Detroit, Mich.; Thaddeus, of Hamilton, O.; Titus, deceased; Marcus, deceased; Cornelius, Ferdinand, Emma, the wife of George Wood, of Dayton; and Ella, the wife of Wesley Hulf, of Indianapolis, Ind. Marcus Eck was given good educational advantages in his youth, attending the home schools as well as those of Lebanon, O., and Hartsville, Ind., and was reared on his father's farm. He early displayed a love for horses, and in this connection eventually went to Kentucky, where for some years he had charge of large trotting horse stables. The ill health of his father caused him to return to Madison township, in 1900, to take charge of the farm, and at the elder man's death, in September, 1905, he became its owner. He successfully managed its operation until his own death in April, 1916. Mr. Eck was a Republican in politics, and his religious connection was with the United Brethren church. He had a wide acquaintance in the community and was respected and esteemed as a man of integrity and a good citizen. Mr. Eck was married near Walton, Ky., November 4, 1886, to Miss Alice Jeffries, who was born near Independence, Ky., a daughter of Jesse and Mary (Rector) Jeffries, natives of the same community, where Mr. Jeffries followed farming until his death at the age of sixty years. Mr. and Mrs. Eck became the parents of seven children: Jessie, a graduate trained nurse of Battle Creek, Mich., who spent one year in the Oberlin (Ohio) Hospital in 1914, and a like period with Doctor Hatcke, of Dayton, and now the wife of W. P. Channon, of Middletown, O.; Mary, who is engaged in the millinery business there; Ella, a dietician in the general hospital, Boston, Mass.; Ferdinand, engaged in farming the home property; and Clifford, William and Catherine, the latter two twins, residing with their mother. Mrs. Eck is a member of the First Baptist church, and is prominently known in charitable and religious work, being actively identified

with the local organizations of the Ladies' Aid society and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

William Thomas Edwards. In the career of William Thomas Edwards, industry, perseverance and continued activity along a well-directed line of labor in a useful trade have combined to bring him prosperity, contentment and a position among the substantial and respected citizens of his community. Mr. Edwards, who is identified with the American Rolling mill at Middletown, in the capacity of roller, was born at Mountain Ash, Wales, May 31, 1874, a son of David and Anna (Thomas) Edwards. His mother died in 1892, but his father still survives in hale old age. Mr. Edwards has one sister, Margaret, who is now the wife of James Grinage, of Pueblo, Col. The public schools of Wheeling furnished Mr. Edwards with his educational instruction, and in that intensely active industrial municipality he laid the foundation for his career, his training being all along the lines of his present work. He continued as a resident of Wheeling until 1911, and still retains his home there, although nominally living at Middletown. During the past eight years he has been employed in the capacity of a roller at the American Rolling mill, where he has gained his employers' confidence and respect by reason of his industry and close application to the duties devolving upon him as the incumbent of his position. As a man of pleasing personality, he attracts friends readily and retains them indefinitely. In his political support Mr. Edwards is inclined to be liberal, voting for man rather than party and recognizing no definite factional lines. He belongs to the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, taking a keen interest in fraternal work, and his religious faith is that of the Christian church. His good citizenship has been displayed on a number of occasions. December 26, 1898, Mr. Edwards was united in matrimony with Daisy, daughter of George and Laura (Thomas) Deiters, and they are the parents of two children: Miss Laura Ann, born in 1899, who resides with her parents at 26 S. Huron street, Wheeling, W. Va.; and George, born in 1905, who is attending the public schools.

William Eesley. Upon one of the oldest vocations known to mankind, that of milling, the Eesley family has indelibly inscribed its name, and a worthy representative of both the family and the honored vocation is found in William Eesley, a miller at College Corner, who is also interested as an owner in the Oxford mills. Mr. Eesley was born at Detroit, Mich., a son of A. R. and Jennie (Goldie) Miller, the latter a native of Scotland and the former of Stratford-on-Avon, England. A. R. Eesley came of a long line of millers, but in young manhood adopted the vocation of school teaching which he followed for several years in his native place and for a time taught school in the house in which the famous Bard of Avon, William Shakespeare, was born. School teaching, however, was not to his liking. He had the family predilection for milling, and, finding that circumstances were not such as to encourage him in his inclinations in his native land, he emigrated to the United States and for a time lived at Newark, N. J. Later, he went to Ayr, Canada, where he secured employment as a miller, and while living there

met Jennie Goldie, who belonged to a family of millers who owned a mill at that place. They were married there and two children were born to them, J. R., who follows milling, and Mrs. J. B. Scoon, of Toronto. After the birth of these children, Mr. Eesley started traveling from place to place, building mills in various parts of Michigan and operating them, and after living for a time at Detroit finally located permanently at Toronto, Canada, where he operated a mill until his death and where his wife also passed away. Their children were: John R., William, Robert, A. R., C. L., and Garfield, all of whom became millers; Dr. George, a physician of Toronto; Anna, who married J. B. Scoon, of Toronto; and Mrs. Jennie Baxter and Mrs. George Sinclair, also of that city. William Eesley received his education in the public schools of Detroit, and upon the completion of his studies traveled for a number of years as a journeyman miller. In 1909, he took up his residence at College Corner, where he has since made his home and achieved his success, being the owner of a prosperous milling property on the Indiana side of the state line, although his residence is in Ohio. He has made a success of this venture and is accounted one of the substantial business men of his locality, and is likewise a third owner in the Oxford mills. He has various businesses, and civic connections, and is a popular member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Eesley married Clara Peel, of Topeka, Kans., a lineal descendant of the eminent English statesman, Sir Robert Peel, and a daughter of James and Ella Peel, of Mount Sterling, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Eesley are the parents of one child: Frances, born in 1901, who married H. Toney, a farmer near College Corner, and has one child, William E.

William J. Ehrnschwender. During the entire career of William J. Ehrnschwender, covering a period of thirty-one years, he has been identified with the First National bank of Hamilton, an institution whose growth and development he has watched with the interested eye of a contributor to its prosperity. He has risen, through his own abilities and fidelity, from a humble position to one of importance with this large and prominent banking house, and in financial circles of the city and county is recognized as a man thoroughly schooled in all the principles and details of modern banking. Mr. Ehrnschwender was born at Hamilton, Ohio, a son of George M. and Margaret (Fuhrman) Ehrnschwender, whose other children were Amelia, George C. and John. The father, who was a baker and confectioner by vocation, conducted an establishment at No. 29 High street, Hamilton, for many years, and during the days of the Civil war handled a number of Government contracts for the baking of bread for use by the Union Army. Educated primarily in the public schools of Hamilton, William J. Ehrnschwender prepared himself for a business career after leaving high school by a course in the Ohio Commercial college. He then returned immediately to Hamilton, and in 1888 secured a position as bank messenger with the First National bank of this city. He proved energetic, faithful and capable, and soon was given advancement to a more responsible position, and from that time to the present his career has been one

in which he has been advanced by reason of his merit and labors. At this time he is filling capably the office of note teller, one of the most responsible in the bank, calling for a high order of ability and constant application. Mr. Ehrnschwender is a member of St. John's Evangelical church. He is a genial, sociable man, who enjoys the companionship of his fellows, and is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose.

Otto I. Ehresman. In the following out well-laid and ably-directed plans as foundry manager, merchant and farmer, Otto I. Ehresman has achieved honorable and satisfactory success, and at the same time has so conducted his affairs as to merit the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men. At the present time he is the owner of a valuable and well-cultivated property consisting of 258 acres, located in Madison township, this property having been attained through the medium of his own industrious efforts. Mr. Ehresman was born on the old Iutzi farm in Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, February 4, 1854, a son of Christian and Maria (Iutzi) Ehresman, natives of Germany. The father was a young man when he emigrated to the United States and after his marriage at Trenton located on a farm north of that place, where he carried on operations until his death twelve years later, in 1867, when he was but forty-five years of age. The politics of the elder Ehresman made him a Democrat, and he and his wife, who survived him until 1906 and was seventy-nine years old at the time of her demise, were members of the Mennonite faith. They had six children: Otto I.; Bena, who married William Jotter, of Trenton; Bertha, who is single and resides at Trenton; Maria, who married William Hege, of Chicago, Ill.; Amelia, single, and a resident of Trenton; and Louisa, who died when a child. Otto I. Ehresman had only a limited educational training, as his father died when the lad was only thirteen years old and his labors were needed to assist in supporting the family. He remained at home with his mother until 1885, in which year he married Mary Duscher, of Madison township, Butler county, a daughter of Henry and Ella (Ball) Duscher, the former a native of Germany and the latter of the state of New York. Mr. Duscher was but three years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, the family settling at Trenton, where he grew to young manhood. When he embarked upon his independent career it was as the owner of a malt house at Hamilton and a still house at Collinsville, but later he engaged in farming, and finally established a foundry at Hamilton, and conducted the present plant there (which was of his own building) until his death. He had also other business connections and was a man well known and highly esteemed. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and the parents of seven children: Louisa, deceased, who was the wife of Fred H. Burk; Mary, who became Mrs. Ehresman; Frank, who died young; Libbie, a resident of Hamilton; Sophia, who married William Stephen, a coal dealer of Hamilton; Sarah Ellen, the wife of Fred H. Burk; and Clara, deceased, who was the wife of Gus Schween, present manager of the Duscher foundry. Three children

have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ehresman: Clarence, Victor and Herbert, all at home. Following his marriage, Mr. Ehresman went to Gratis township, Preble county, where he was engaged in farming for a period of five years, and then returned to Butler county to become manager of the old Duscher foundry for his father-in-law, gradually advancing to the position of vice-president. He later reentered in farming in Madison township for four years, and then purchased the old Asa Schuler place, of 258 acres, on which he carried on operations for three years. He has modern improvements of all kinds, and is accounted a skilled, practical and progressive agriculturist, and one who keeps fully abreast of all advancements being made in his vocation. Mr. Ehresman has also had experience in commercial affairs, for during a period of thirteen years he conducted a successful grocery establishment at Trenton and maintained an excellent record as a business man of marked ability and high principles. He is a democrat, and he and Mrs. Ehresman are faithful members of the Mennonite church.

Leonard Eichler, a progressive, industrious and successful agriculturist of Hanover township, and the owner of a good property, in the management and cultivation of which he is demonstrating his ability to gain good results for the labor which he expends, was born on a farm in St. Clair township, Butler county, Ohio, November 21, 1862, a son of George and Mary (Bauman) Eichler, natives of Germany. Emigrating to the United States in young manhood, George Eichler secured a position as a hired hand on a farm in St. Clair township, and not long thereafter he met Miss Bauman, who had come to the same farm to take a position in the household service. They were married and for thirteen years thereafter resided in the same township, then moved to the property which is now occupied by their son Leonard. Both died firm in the faith of the Lutheran church and respected and esteemed by those who knew them. Of their three children, Leonard is the only survivor, Christine and John being deceased. Leonard Eichler was brought up as a farmer's son and received his education in the public schools. As a youth and young man he assisted his father, and tenderly cared for his parents during their declining years, and at the time of their death inherited the home place, on which he has since carried on operations and as a business man he has earned the esteem and confidence of his associates by the honorable manner in which he has conducted his transactions. During the late war he was a generous contributor to all activities. In politics he is a Democrat, and he and the members of his family belong to the Reformed church. Mr. Eichler married Barbara, daughter of George Popp, of Reily township, and to this union there were born four children, of whom three survive: Martha E and Frieda A., who reside with their parents; and Louise M., who married Elmer Sipp and lives on a farm in Hanover township.

Eikenberry Brothers Company. In business circles of Hamilton the name of Eikenberry Brothers company carries with it the prestige that always attaches to a house that has established its integrity and solidity beyond the shadow of a doubt, while among

the general public the title stands for a concern which has never misrepresented its product and which has faithfully and unfailingly lived up to the letter of its obligations. This wholesale flour, feed and seeds business was established at Hamilton some years ago, when E. C. and C. M. Eikenberry, brothers, came to this city and located themselves on Fifth street, in the Bender property. There they succeeded in building up a large trade and eventually found their quarters inadequate to the demands of the business, so that they took the step of building their present fine property, 42 x 110 feet, a two-story brick and basement structure, at the corner of Seventh and Maple streets. Here every department is completely equipped and splendidly regulated, with an idea for the saving of time and labor and the consequent better conduct of the business. The Eikenberry Brothers company's flour, feed and seeds are widely and favorably known among the retailers, who are supplied direct, as only a wholesale business is done by the brothers. In addition to carrying on this business in a highly successful manner, they are interested in the grain business, and have elevators at Camden and Collinsville, Ohio. In all their business connections they have shown themselves to be upright and possessed of principles of fair dealing, which accounts for their excellent standings in business reputation and public opinion. E. C. and C. M. Eikenberry were born on a farm in Preble county, Ohio, sons of Levi and Rebecca (Eby) Eikenberry. The parents passed their entire lives in that county, in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and were people who had and merited the esteem and respect of their neighbors. Their family consisted of three sons and three daughters: E. C., of the firm; Whitfield P., who is operating the homestead farm in Preble county; C. M., of the firm; Agnes, who lives on a part of the old home place and is the wife of W. B. Francis; and Leila, the wife of J. D. Flory and a resident near Camden, Ohio. The public schools of Preble county furnished the early educational training of E. C. and C. M. Eikenberry, following which they attended the Ohio State university, at Athens, Ohio. They did not commence their careers in their present line of work, as E. C. Eikenberry was for some years identified with banking matters, as assistant cashier of the Commercial bank at Camden, and was president of the National Grain Dealers association, while C. M. Eikenberry taught country schools for two years, and was superintendent of schools at West Manchester, Ohio, and county examiner for six years. He was also president of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce; president of the Ohio Grain Dealers association; served as county food administrator and member of a federal committee. However, both had inherent qualities which drew them inevitably into business affairs, and since coming to Hamilton they have assumed positions among the leading business citizens, while they have also been successful in making numerous friendships. E. C. Eikenberry married Miss Anna Phares and is the father of one son, William. C. M. Eikenberry married Jessie Rogers, of Hamilton, and has three children: Rebecca, Roger and Jane. Both families belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

John W. Eiler, a skilled and thoroughly competent general farmer and stock raiser and the owner of 102 acres of land, but is now operating 344 acres, was born at Symmes Corners, Butler county, Ohio, December 3, 1868, a son of John and Carolina (Schafer) Eiler, the former a native of Butler county and the latter of Germany, in which country also was born the paternal grandfather of Mr. Eiler, an early settler of Seven Mile, Butler county, who was engaged in shoemaking there until his death. John W. Eiler accepted the educational opportunities offered by attendance at the district schools, and upon leaving the log schoolhouse of his locality took up agricultural work as a farmhand for two years. Next he worked for his father until he reached his majority, when he rented a farm in Warren county, a tract of 125 acres, which he cultivated for three years. He then returned to Butler county for one year, but subsequently went back to Warren county and for fifteen years carried on operations on a rented property of 228 acres, but finally closed out his interests there. In 1912, he located on the farm which he is now renting, of 242 acres, in addition to which he is operating 102 acres of his own, making his property 344 acres in extent. While he has always been a general farmer, he has also found much to attract him in the raising of live stock, and is now feeding about 200 hogs per year. He is a recognized authority in this line, takes a deep pride in the quality of his stock, and is constantly improving his equipment for the caring for it. He also milks about twenty cows and does a thriving dairy business. As a voter, Mr. Eiler is independent in his views. He was married in 1899 to Ida M. Dishem, and they are the parents of five children: Hazel, Roy, Lee, Clarence and Howard. A splendid business man, an excellent farmer and stockman and a genial friend, Mr. Eiler is a typical representative of the best class of agriculturists in this part of the Miami valley.

Winfield Samuel Ekey, a shearman at the Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill company, and a reliable and well-to-do citizen, was born near Steubenville, Ohio, September 25, 1864, a son of Samuel and Mary Ann (Duff) Ekey, prosperous farming people of that community, where the father died about 1871 and the mother December 7, 1878. Mr. Ekey has two brothers, Wesley and Charles, who are residents of Martins Ferry, Ohio, and two sisters, Iva and Hattie, who are deceased. Winfield S. Ekey was educated in the public schools of Steubenville and passed his boyhood on the home farm, where he was taught the traits of thrift, integrity and industry. The agricultural life, however, not appealing to him, he applied for and secured employment in the mills of his community, whence he came to Middletown in 1911, to enter the American Rolling mill. There he occupies the position of shearman and has the full confidence of his employers and the friendship and respect of his fellow-workmen. Mr. Ekey is a man of versatile attainments, and is especially skilled as a cabinetmaker. In his pretty home on Michigan avenue are to be found a number of pieces of handsomely wrought furniture as evidences of his skill and handicraft, and in addition it was he who made the

beautiful pulpit in the Oakland Presbyterian church at Middletown. He is a popular and valued member of the local lodges of the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, and during the past five years has been a delegate to the conventions of the I. S. & J. W. In politics he maintains a liberal stand, and his religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Ekey was married September 18, 1888, to Miss Elizabeth Pierce, who was born September 18, 1868, in Wales, a daughter of Jabez and Elizabeth (Tout) Pierce, natives of England, the former of whom died January 13, 1916, and the latter of whom still survives. There were six children born to this union: Harry B., Pierce W., Paul, Jabez, Ernest Edward and Elizabeth. Of these, three sons fought in the great World war. Pierce W. enlisted in the Fifth Field Artillery, 1st Division, in May, 1917, and was two years overseas. He was gassed and wounded June 10, 1918, in the Argonne Forest, and was temporarily blinded and confined to the hospital for three months. After the signing of the armistice he went with the Army of Occupation into Germany. At the beginning of the war, Paul enlisted in the 8th Field Artillery, 7th Division, and Jabez entered the Aviation Corps. Elizabeth Ekey, while on a visit with her parents to Camp Taylor, met at Louisville, Ky., Frederick Reese Earnshaw, of San Jose, Calif., whose bride she later became. Mr. Earnshaw has been in the army for five years, having enlisted in the artillery at the time of the Mexican trouble on the border. Both Mr. and Mrs. Earnshaw are very popular with the young people of Middletown, where they are temporarily making their home at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ekey.

Andrew J. Elrick. By dint of natural ability and perseverance, Andrew J. Elrick has won a substantial position among the reliable citizens of Middletown, at which place he is employed as a roller in the American Rolling mill. He is a self-made man and his career has been one in which he has had to depend only upon his own ability and resource, which have been strong enough to win him contentment and a goodly share of prosperity. Mr. Elrick was born August 5, 1882, at Cedarville, Ohio, a son of David McCullough and Addie (Jameson) Elrick. When he was a lad the family moved to Alexandria, Ind., where David M. Elrick was successfully engaged in contract work, a line which he followed until his death, April 29, 1919. Mrs. Elrick still survives and makes her home at Middletown with her son, who has one sister, Mrs. William Stringhman, of this city. Andrew J. Elrick was educated in the public schools of Alexandria, Ind., where for a short time he was employed by his father in contract work, but eventually turned his attention to his present line, and in 1901 came to Middletown to accept a position with the American Rolling Mill company, with which he has been identified ever since. He now discharges the duties of roller, a position in which he has displayed physical endurance, marked intelligence and unremitting perseverance, so that he stands high in the favor of his employers as one to be depended upon. Mr. Elrick was married December 23, 1901, to Marie Dakin, born September 16, 1885, at Franklin, Ohio, daughter of Ira and

RESIDENCE OF ANDREW J. ELRICK, MIDDLETOWN

Elizabeth (Bolmer) Dakin. To this union there have been born four children: Irvin K.; Robert, who died in infancy; David McCullough and Betty Jane. Their pleasant and tastefully furnished home is located at 1101 Yankee road, and is frequently the meeting-place of the wide circle of friends possessed by Mr. and Mrs. Elrick. They are consistent members of the United Presbyterian church, while Mr. Elrick belongs to the Loyal Order of Moose and the Eagles, and in political adherence supports the candidates and principles of the Democratic party.

J. Charles Engel, a well-known farmer of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, was born in that township, March 6, 1864, on the Engel homestead, in section 11. He is a son of John F. and Elizabeth (Heinlein) Engel. His parents were born in Germany, coming to this country about the year 1847, locating first in Cincinnati. They were married near Millville, Ohio, and were the parents of eight children: Maggie, who married Henry Stahlheber, of Hanover township; Christina, the widow of John Stahlheber of Hanover township; J. Charles; George J., unmarried; Mary, Elizabeth, William, and Annie, the last four deceased. Mr. Engel being a shoemaker by trade gave up this business a few years after his marriage, and bought a tract of ground in Ross township, whereon he erected a brick house and other buildings, then cleared the land, and improved and cultivated it, making a fine farm of his land, He was keeper of a toll gate for some time, and was sexton of the Bethel church, near Millville, Ohio, for a number of years. In 1901 he passed away at the age of seventy-two years, wife dying ten years later, aged eighty-one years. He was one of the old line Democrats of Ohio. They were both members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church. J. Charles Engel received his education in the schools of Ross township, and after his marriage to Minnie Schmitt, in 1892, he took up extensive farming. His wife is a daughter of John and Elizabeth Schmitt. Mr. Engel and his wife are the parents of: Carl E., a farmer in Ross township, who married Luella Walker, and have one child,—Gwendolyn; Adolph J., a farmer, who lives with his brother Carl; Marie M., J. Fred, Arthur, Ralph E., Walter G., and Edna L., who died in infancy. The children were all educated in the township schools. Adolph and Carl attended high school at Hamilton, and Marie, Fred and Arthur are graduates of Venice High School. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Engel lived on the homestead, removing thence in 1909 to Venice, Ohio, where they lived till 1917, when they built a handsome home on the estate. He is the owner of eighty-six acres of the old Engel estate, and is also the owner of 150 acres at Venice. On his farms he raises some very fine live stock and in connection with farming carries on a dairy business. The family are all members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Hamilton. He is a member of the Democratic party.

Ernst E. Erb. To that class of representatives of public-spirited citizenship who work with the full measure of manly strength for individual success but also unselfishly endeavor to promote the general prosperity, belongs Ernst E. Erb, city auditor of Hamil-

ton. He is a native of Hamilton and a son of Philip and Alice (Reynolds) Erb, who were also born in Hamilton. The father, a tinner by trade, eventually entered the Hamilton fire department, of which he was a faithful member for thirty-five years. There were five children in the family: Ernst E., of this notice; John, who married Marie Brittingham; Harry; George; and Laura, who married William Humbach and lives in Cincinnati. Ernst E. Erb has always considered it a matter of good fortune that he was able to live through his developing years in a progressive city, attributing his congenial surroundings to family and friends, early making and always retaining a large circle of the latter. A graded and high school education was his preparation for business and the only special advantages he ever had were those which he provided for himself. His first employment was with the Prudential Insurance company, with which he remained several years, and then entered the service of the Niles Tool company, a concern with which he remained until appointed deputy city auditor in 1908. He rose from this position to that of auditor, to which he was elected for four successive terms of two years each and is still capably discharging the duties of his office. His official record is a splendid one, in which he has demonstrated the possession of marked ability and the desire to discharge his duties in a manner that will not only be acceptable but beneficial to the community. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, The Protected Home Circle, Walnut Aid Society and the Crescent Aid Society and his religious connection is with St. John's Evangelical church. Mr. Erb married Miss Cora Atherton, of Hamilton, and four children have been born to them: Ruth, who is deceased; Mildred, attending school; Helen, who is deceased; and Dorothy, born in 1915. The pleasant family home is located at 1241 Van-Derveer avenue.

Otto R. Ernst. Real recognition comes to those who have worthily striven to win approval honorably from the men who understand and can properly express their confidence. The career of Otto R. Ernst, office manager of the important dry goods house of Holbrock Brothers, at Hamilton, Ohio, mirrors on its surface much that is conducive to a high standard of business principles and little that can be criticised. In his present capacity he has demonstrated and is still proving his efficiency and high capability. Mr. Ernst was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, November 28, 1860. Left an orphan in infancy, he succeeded in gaining a public school education, and when still a lad secured a position as errand boy with the firm of A. E. Burkhardt, furriers of Cincinnati, and his subsequent service with that concern covered a period of twenty-six years. During this more than a quarter century of faithful and capable discharge of duty, he rose steadily in position until he reached the post of office manager. In 1907 he accepted an offer from the firm of Holbrock Brothers to come to Hamilton and take charge of its office force in the capacity of manager, and this post he still retains. Mr. Ernst is a member of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and of the Retail Merchants' association, in which

latter organization his splendid abilities are utilized as a member of the executive committee. Mr. Ernst married Miss Emma Greiser, daughter of John and Magdaline Greiser, early settlers of Hamilton, and to this union there have been born three sons and one daughter: Otto A., aged twenty-five years, who attended the graded schools and the Catholic high school of Hamilton and is at present record clerk in the city gas office; Edwin, aged twenty-three years, who attended the same schools and is now secretary of the Saurs Adjustment company of Hamilton; Helen, a graduate of Hamilton High school, later attending Notre Dame academy; and Cornelius, aged eighteen years, attending high school. The family belongs to St. Stephen's Catholic church.

Charles W. Ernsting, who owns and conducts one of the best grocery stores in Butler county, is recognized as one of the most sagacious business men of Hamilton. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 11, 1864, a son of William Ernsting. Both William Ernsting and his wife were born in Germany, and after their marriage, they came to the United States, first stopping for a time in Pennsylvania, but later moving to Ohio and settling at Cincinnati, where both died. They had three children born to them, namely: August, who is married, has two children; Charles W., whose name heads this review; and Louise, who is now deceased, was married and had five children. Charles W. Ernsting attended the common schools of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was reared. Becoming self-supporting, he was employed by several Cincinnati grocers, but in 1885, he left Cincinnati, and for three years was on the road, learning the grocery business from another angle. Returning to Cincinnati, Mr. Ernsting was connected with the grocery trade of that city until April, 1896, when he came to Hamilton and established himself here as a grocer, since which time he has expanded his business and extended his trade until he is one of the leaders in his line in the city. Upon coming to Hamilton, Mr. Ernsting bought a property at 549 Franklin street, which he improved, and then he bought the adjoining lot at 551, building on the two lots. He then built on 440 Park avenue, and bought a residence at the corner of B and Franklin streets, later adding by purchase the lot next door. After the flood in 1913 he traded these last two properties for a quarter section of valuable land in Hanover township, which he rents to a tenant. Following this trade, Mr. Ernsting bought his present residence at 431 Ross avenue, and has made may improvements there, making it now one of the most comfortable houses in the city. While he was thus investing in residence property, Mr. Ernsting had bought the store building and lot at the corner of Main and D streets, where he has since continued to operate as a grocer, occupying this one stand for twenty-three years. November 18, 1897, Mr. Ernsting was united in marriage with Miss Della Brooks, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, early settlers of Hamilton, Mrs. Brooks belonging to the Kimball family. Mr. and Mrs. Ernsting have two children, namely: Wilhelmina, who was born September 25, 1899, attended the grammar schools of Hamilton, and later took a business course

at a commercial college, was married in September, 1918, to Howard Hemmerick, and they live at Hamilton; and Harry C., who was born June 15, 1906, is now attending the Hamilton grade school. Mrs. Ernsting attends the services of the Baptist church, of which she is a member. While he votes the Republican ticket, and gives to the candidates of his party a faithful support, Mr. Ernsting has never cared to take an active part in politics. He is a Shriner Mason, and also belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Royal Arcanum. He has always prided himself upon being scrupulously upright in all of his dealings, and has studied his trade carefully and met its desires promptly, and so satisfactory has been the service he has rendered that a number of his original customers are retained to this day. Early learning the value of time and the wisdom of economy, he has become a man of means and a substantial factor in the community where he has been engaged in business for so many years.

Chalmers M. Ethel, son of George and Edith (Simons) Ethel, was born in Zanesville, Ohio, April 7, 1882, where much of his life has been spent. He has two sisters and two brothers: Emma, who is Mrs. Henry Rison; Homer, Floyd, Goldie, all of whom live in Zanesville. His mother died in that city March 18, 1918; his father died at the home of his son in Middletown, Ohio, December 12, 1918. July 17, 1905, Mr. Ethel was married to Daisy Bidoe, daughter of George and Carrie Bidoe. Two children have been born to them: Charlotte, July 14, 1907, and Stanley Arthur, August 30, 1912. The daughter and mother possess great musical talent, and are pianists of more than usual excellence. Mrs. Ethel was born in Toledo, Ohio, August 9, 1887, and has one sister,—Linnie. Her father died in Cincinnati, December 5, 1918, and her mother still resides in that city. In 1911, Mr. Ethel came to Middletown from Zanesville to help start the East Side Rolling mill and is still employed at that place. He is a shearman, skilled and very reliable in his work. Mr. Ethel owns one of the most valuable properties on Michigan boulevard, and takes pride in the fact that he has by good management and thrifty habits provided such a splendid home for his family. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics is a Democrat.

Bernard Even, who is one of the substantial farmers and good citizens of Union township, Butler county, was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, October 22, 1875, son of John and Elizabeth (Geers) Even, both of whom were born in Germany. The father came to the United States in early manhood, finding his first home in Hamilton county, Ohio. He was industrious and reliable and after working for a time as a farmhand, rented land for several years, then bought a place near Carthage, Ohio, on which he remained five years. For several years he resided near Sharon, after which he bought the small farm in Hamilton county on which he lived during the rest of his life, his death occurring in July, 1915. The mother of Mr. Even died in 1901. They had eight children, four of whom are living: Philomena, Elizabeth, Mary and Bernard. Bernard Even obtained his education in Hamilton county. He has

been a farmer all his life, working on the home farm until his marriage, after which he rented the farm his father had bought in 1886, and bought it in 1906. He now owns 103 acres, all well improved, and here is profitably carrying on general farming and raises some good grade stock. In 1906 he married Anna, daughter of Joseph Schwegman, and they have the following children: Sylvester, Mary, Joseph, Raymond, Leona, Charles, Rosella and Alma. Mr. Even and his family are well known in their neighborhood and are members of the Catholic church at Glendale. In politics he has always been a Democrat, but has never been a seeker for public office.

Mrs. Elizabeth Fabing. Among the well-known and highly esteemed women of Middletown, who has been a resident of this city for a number of years, is Mrs. Elizabeth Fabing, now residing in her pleasant home at 625 Curtis avenue. Mrs. Fabing was born and reared near Amanda, Ohio, a daughter of Peter and Lena (Rhoades) Troutwine, and received her education in the public schools. She made her home with her parents until her marriage, May 17, 1887, in the Methodist church at Middletown, to John Fabing, the ceremony being performed by the Reverend Oglesby. John Fabing was born in 1865 and for many years was well and favorably known in mercantile circles of Middletown, where he was the proprietor of a prosperous shoe business, built up through his industry and good management, and was also the appraiser and a director of the Middletown Building association. His death occurred at the age of fifty-two years, July 12, 1917, he being sincerely mourned by a wide circle of acquaintances who had come to know his sterling qualities of mind and heart. Mr. and Mrs. Fabing were the parents of three children: Elizabeth, who became the wife of Arthur Kerschbaum; Paul John, who served in the great World war; and May, a beautiful young woman, whose death, February 4, 1917, was a terrible bereavement to her mother. Arthur Kerschbaum is a son of Jacob and Barbara (Wagner) Kerschbaum, the former of whom is foreman of the Middletown Machine company, while Arthur is bookkeeper for the Sorg Paper company. He and Mrs. Kerschbaum have a pretty little daughter, Elizabeth Ann, whose coming, in 1918, brought sunshine again into Mrs. Fabing's life and helped her in part to forget her great sorrow. Mr. Kerschbaum had seven sisters and brothers: Esther, Ralph, Freda, Paul, Carl, Elsie and Mark. Mrs. Fabing also acts as a mother to her niece and nephew, Charles and Mary Bogan, who have lost their parents, Robert and Rose (Troutwine) Bogan. These children are attending the Ohio State university, where Charles is studying chemistry and Mary is taking a classical course. Mrs. Fabing is the owner of an attractive modern home on Curtis avenue. She is a woman of many graces and accomplishments and an active member of the Lutheran church, and her charities extend to many worthy movements and institutions.

Henry Fall. One cannot follow the long career of Henry Fall without a renewed appreciation of those sterling homely qualities which, when allied with practical business sense, lift men from

obscurity and dependence to position and prosperity. His career has been one in which industry has played a leading part in changing his fortunes and his present standing in his community in a financial way is indicated by the ownership of a splendid property of 279 acres located on the Winchester pike, not far from Middletown, in Butler county. Mr. Fall was born near Middletown, Ohio, and is a son of Josiah and Susan (Smith) Fall. His parents were industrious and God-fearing people, who tilled their acres faithfully, made a good home for their family, and reared their children to lives of honesty and industry. Nine children were born to them; Henry; John W., who is a resident of California; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of Daniel Weikle; David, who is deceased; Ella, who is the wife of Gus Hinkle, of Monroe, Ohio; Samuel, who is a resident of the west; Levina, who is the wife of O. Huffman, deceased; Emma, who is the wife of Rudolph Augsburger, of Monroe, Ohio; and Wilson, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in the neighborhood of Middletown on the Miltonville road. Henry Fall received his educational training in the district schools of his native locality, and the position which he occupied in the family made it necessary that a large part of his boyhood and youth be spent in hard work so that he could assist in the support and education of his younger brothers and sisters. When he embarked upon a career of his own, it was as a farmer, and this has been the vocation to which he has devoted his energies all his life. That he has been successful in his undertakings is shown in his present property, a handsomely improved tract of 279 acres, on which there are to be found a modern home with all comforts and conveniences, a commodious barn, fully equipped, and fine outbuildings to correspond. For the most part, the land is devoted to the growing of grain, of which it produces luxuriant crops, but Mr. Fall has also experimented successfully with the raising of live stock, a field from which he derives a goodly part of his income. Mr. Fall is a farmer of ability, combining hard, practical sense with a willingness to try new methods and adopt them when found practicable, and is adjudged an authority on certain matters pertaining to his occupation. He was married in 1885 to Mary Eliza, daughter of James and Maria (Brelsford) Schenck, and to this union there have been born four children: Charles, who is his father's assistant in the operation of the home farm, married Mabel, daughter of Ed and Maria (Gebhart) Smith; Alfred, who married Ida Guilder, and carries on farming in the same locality; and Earl, married Clara Gingrich of Jacksonboro, Ohio, and Hubert, who reside with their parents. Mrs. Fall has three brothers: William B., James R. and Ed Schenck, all of West Middletown. Politically Mr. Fall is a Democrat, but politics have played only a small part in his career, he having been content with the activities of his farm. He and Mrs. Fall are consistent members of the United Brethren church, and are known for their good citizenship and their generous support of all worthy causes.

Wilson Fall. Few families of the agricultural community of Butler county have been represented in this part of the Miami

valley longer than has that bearing the name of Fall. Among its members have been many of sound worth who have advanced to positions of prosperity in the various communities in which they have resided or still make their homes, and among these one who is well worthy of bearing the name is Wilson Fall, who operates a well-cultivated property on the Miltonville road, not far from the city of Middletown. This substantial and progressive agriculturist was born near Germantown, Ohio, October 28, 1870, his parents being Josiah and Susan (Smith) Fall, who both came of fine old pioneer stock. They were good, Christian people, who devoted themselves faithfully to the cultivation of their farm, to the making of a good home for their family and to the proper rearing of their children to truth and sobriety, and who were esteemed in their community. Nine children were born to them: Henry, who is farming 225 acres on the Winchester pike, not far from Middletown; John W., who is a resident of California; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of Daniel Weikle; David, who is deceased; Ella, who is the wife of Gus Hinkle, of Monroe, Ohio; Samuel, who is a resident of the West; Levina, who is the wife of O. Huffman; Emma, who is the wife of Rudolph Augsburger, of Monroe, Ohio; and Wilson, of this review. Wilson Fall was given his educational training in the public schools of his native community and was thoroughly instructed by his father in the arts of agriculture, gaining his experience at first hand and having each lesson vividly impressed upon his mind through hard work and actual contact with his study. He naturally adopted agriculture as his vocation when he reached years of manhood, and to this occupation he has since devoted himself with success, being at this time the owner of a farm of eighty-five acres of highly productive land. Everything about this property gives ample evidence of the presence of good management and up-to-date methods, and the property has been enhanced, both in appearance and value by the erection of splendid barns and outbuildings, as well as the recently built brick bungalow, which forms an attractive home. Mr. Fall devotes his energies principally to the raising of grain, although he has also met with merited success in his breeding of live stock, for which he finds a ready market at good prices. His reputation in business circles for absolute integrity and fidelity has been gained through years of straightforward dealing and honorable living up to contracts. In political matters he is a Democrat and is staunch in his party's candidates and principles. With his family, he attends the United Brethren church, of which he and Mrs. Fall are members. Mr. Fall was united in marriage with Louisa, daughter of Nathan and Laura (Brelsford) Schenck, well known people of this county. She died on the farm in 1913 after years of devoted work at the side of her husband, leaving two children: Herbert and Velma, the latter now Mrs. Fred Sixt, who reside on the farm with their father.

George Herbert Fanning, the subject of this sketch, has been a wideawake citizen of Middletown for the past eighteen years, when he came from Cincinnati and identified himself with the

American Rolling Mill company as a roller. He comes from a sturdy ancestry. His father was born in Pittsburg, Pa.; his mother, in Belfast, Ireland. His grandfather emigrated to this country and located in Pittsburg, Pa. The Fanning family is of French extraction and the original name was Vanning. Somewhere along the line of descent, "F" was substituted for "V." George Herbert, son of John and Margaret (Nicholson) Fanning, was born in Pittsburg, February 2, 1868. His father died in the spring of 1900; his mother, in October, 1894. He has a sister and three brothers: Lydia, Mrs. Fred Gardner, in Pittsburg; William, in Piqua, Ohio; Andrew, in Follansbee, Va.; Edward, near Pittsburg. June 21, 1890, our subject married Martha R. Grubb, daughter of Eli and Elmira (Hansell) Grubb, of Philadelphia, Pa. She was a native of Pennsylvania, born near Philadelphia, October 7, 1868. Her father served three years in the War of the Rebellion; her mother died in June, 1916, and she has two sisters, Irene, Mrs. Arthur Hill, in Boston; Ollie, Mrs. Ralph Weaver, in Kansas City, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Fanning were born four children: Franklin Herbert, Walter, Harry, deceased; and May Rena. Walter is a graduate of the Green School of Pharmacy at Indianapolis, Ind., also from the Middletown High school. He owns and conducts a large and well-stocked drug store at the corner of Sixth street and Yankee road, and by reason of his skill, courtesy and capability has established a fine business. Mr. Fanning owns a beautiful and well-arranged home, in which he takes great pride and which affords him, his family and friends much enjoyment. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and politically does not affiliate with any party but is liberal.

Samuel Farnsworth. For a number of years Samuel Farnsworth has made his home in Middletown and has been prominently identified with its upbuilding and prosperity, especially along industrial and agricultural lines. He is a man of superior business ability and sound judgment and has won that prosperity which is the merited reward of honorable effort. As a citizen he has been always thoroughly interested in whatever has tended to promote the welfare of the community in which he has resided. Mr. Farnsworth was born on a farm in Huron county, Ohio, November 2, 1870, a son of Henry and Lavina (Close) Farnsworth, formerly of Ashland county, Ohio, who rounded out their long and useful lives in Huron county, where they were highly respected as being among the best element of the agricultural class. As a youth Samuel Farnsworth attended the public schools of his native community, and while growing up on his father's farm became interested in the habits of the odd little animal known as the ferret. Continued interest and study led him to commence raising several of these little weasel-like creatures, first as pets, but later as a matter of business, and this enterprise he soon built up to large proportions. He estimates that during the period he was thus engaged that he raised in the neighborhood of 8,000 of these useful animals, which were shipped not only to all points all over the United States, but to various other countries, as well, some even being sent to Japan. The principal uses to which these ferocious creatures are put are rabbit-

SAMUEL FARNSWORTH OREN W. AND SAMUEL, JR.

MRS. SAMUEL FARNSWORTH AND SAMUEL, JR.

hunting (for which they must be muzzled) and rat-catching. The great flood which swept this part of the country robbed Mr. Farnsworth of his business in 1913, for it swept away all of his animals, and he knew too well the difficulty of gathering together enough to begin business anew. However, he had not all of his eggs in one basket, for he was interested in a fertilizer plant at Middletown, and to this he began to give more of his attention. Also, in 1905, he had purchased at Middletown the 125-acre property which was known as the old Wrenn farm, and on which he had been raising principally corn and alfalfa. He built a beautiful new home on this property, when the old house on another part of the farm burned he replaced it with a new one, and in addition made numerous other improvements, making this one of the most valuable and attractive properties in this part of the county. Also, he began the buying, fattening and sale of hogs, and this business has grown to a point where his annual shipments and sales approximate in the neighborhood of from 300 to 500 hogs. So that the loss of his ferret-raising business, which seemed like a great calamity at the time, has not turned out so disastrously in the light of subsequent results. Mr. Farnsworth is a self-made man. He started his career practically empty-handed and has gained his own success and advancement. His business methods have been straightforward and his prosperity has been won through the utilization of opportunities and through the exercise of his native talents and acquired ability. He is fraternally popular with his fellow-members in the local lodges of the Odd Fellows and the Elks, and his political support is given to the Republican party. Mr. Farnsworth was married in 1903 to Miss Lola Babcock, daughter of Oren W. and Etta (Searls) Babcock, natives of Lorain county, Ohio, and to this union were born two children: Oren W. and Samuel jr. Mrs. Farnsworth died September 28, 1919.

John W. Faucett. The substantial growth and development of the enterprise known as the Faucett Transfer and Storage company, of Hamilton, is another indication of the value of industry and fidelity when applied to legitimate undertakings and directed along well-defined channels of business. Starting in a small way, in 1895, under the impetus of its founder and proprietor, John W. Faucett, it has advanced into being one of Hamilton's leading establishments and has its recognized place in the business life of the city. John W. Faucett was born at Frankton, on Pipe Creek, Madison county, Ind., June 25, 1863, a son of David and Margaret Faucett. His father was born and reared at Hamilton, Ohio, but in young manhood moved to Frankton, Ind., and settled down to farming in that community for a time. He was married there, but subsequently moved to Springfield, Ohio, and later to Millville, at both of which places he continued his agricultural operations. His death occurred when he was fifty-nine years of age. He and his wife were the parents of two sons: Joseph, of Hamilton, and John W. John W. Faucett attended the graded schools of Millville, and for a time followed farming in association with his father, at Millville. Later he embarked in farming on his own account, as a renter of land at Fairplay, Ohio, but eventually decided that agricultural work was not his forte, and

accordingly came to Hamilton to seek some other field of endeavor. For two years he was engaged in ordinary teaming, with his own teams, but in 1895 started a transfer business, his equipment at that time consisting of a wagon and two horses. He was expeditious in carrying out his business, prompt, careful and efficient, and soon his business began to grow and he was forced to add to his equipages. In 1907 Mr. Faucett incorporated the business as the Faucett Transfer and Storage Company, with a plant at Seventh and Maple streets, and took E. C. Huffman into the enterprise as a partner. At this time the company owns many head of horses, several trucks and a modern barn and storage building at the above named address. The business has grown from practically nothing to be a $30,000 concern, examplifying the true spirit of progress with which Mr. Faucett is imbued. In 1906 he bought a property at 714 Ludlow street, where he resided for five years, and then purchased the property at Seventh and High streets, where he now lives with his family. In 1890 Mr. Faucett was united in marriage with Miss Minnie A. Mohler, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Mohler, of Fairplay, Ohio, and to this union there have been born two children: May, educated in the public schools and a graduate of the Hamilton High school, now the wife of Fred H. Van Sickle, of Middletown; and Herschel, a graduate of Hamilton schools, who married Miss Anna Levline, of Hamilton, and became identified with the Faucett Transfer and Storage company. Mr. Faucett and his family attend the Methodist church. He is interested in fraternal work, as a member of the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in all of which he is popular. He is in charge of the horse department of the Butler County Agricultural Society, of which he has been a member for a number of years, and is generally accounted an excellent judge of horse-flesh. His political views make him a supporter of the principles of the Democrat party.

Robert C. Faust. In the late Robert C. Faust, Butler county had a citizen who contributed to its upbuilding a number of years of industrious work as an agriculturist and the development of a valuable and well-cultivated farm. Although many years have passed since he joined the great majority, July 1, 1890, his methodical and upright life is recalled as a useful lesson by the many friends and associates who survive him and who, like himself, recognize the value of principle as a valuable financial asset. Mr. Faust was born in Hamilton county, O., April 21, 1836, a son of Peter and Rebecca (Cunningham) Faust, of the same county. His father was originally a carriage and wagon maker of Hamilton county, later secured a farm in Warren county, and finally moved to Middletown, where both he and Mrs. Faust passed away. Their five children were: Robert C.; Lucy, deceased, who was the wife of James N. Schenck of Middletown; Amanda, deceased, who was the wife of William White, of Dayton; Carrie, deceased, who was the wife of the late Capt. Frank Helwig; and Abbie, the widow of John Nils, of Cincinnati. Robert C. Faust was educated at College Hill, O., and in his youth learned the trade of carriage and wagon maker in his

father's shop. Later he became a merchant at Pisgah, but disposed of his interests there when his father became a farmer and accompanied the elder man into the vocation of agriculture. He was married in Warren county, Ohio, to Miss Elvira Keever, of Union Village, O., a daughter of Thomas and Mary A. (Perine) Keever, both of Warren county, although the latter's parents were natives of Kentucky. Thomas Keever was a son of Abraham and Margaret (Jones) Keever, of Pennsylvania, the latter of Scotch descent. Abraham Keever, one of the pioneers of Warren county, settled in the heavy timber, cleared a farm and made a home, and rounded out a long and useful agricultural career. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children: Joe, Anthony, John, Philip, Joseph, Abraham, George, Thomas, Elizabeth, Lavina, Mary and Hannah. Thomas Keever lived at Union Village, in Warren county, where he owned a farm of 300 acres, but sold this in 1863 and thereafter lived at the homes of his children until his death in July, 1895. He was a Republican in his political views, and Mrs. Keever was a member of the Baptist church. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: John, who died at Lebanon, O., married Ruth Lamb; Mary Ellen, who married Benjamin Yeager, of Lebanon; James, a former farmer and county commissioner who retired to Lebanon and there died; Margaret, the widow of William Tullis, residing at Franklin; George, a member of Company A, 35th Regiment, O. V. I., who met a soldier's death on the battlefield of Chickamauga during the Civil war; Mrs. Faust; and Martha, deceased, who was the wife of James Thompson, a Civil war veteran. In 1873 Mr. and Mrs. Faust moved to Madison township, Butler county, and bought the Isaac Gephart farm of eighty acres, in section 35. There they made numerous improvements, developing an excellent property, and Mr. Faust continued to follow general farming until the time of his death. He was a Republican in his political affiliation and a man who was universally esteemed wherever known. He and Mrs. Faust became the parents of three children: Elmore C., born March 9, 1870, who formerly was employed at the tool works at Hamilton, but now a grocer at Germantown, married Mary Swartzel, and has one son, Robert, married Myrtle Witz July 21, 1915; Mary, born September 6, 1874, who died in 1876; and Clarence K., born August 25, 1879, who has always remained on the home farm, married November 19, 1902, Miss Helen Banker, daughter of Samuel and Nancy (Barkelow) Banker, of Madison township. Mr. Banker was a farmer of that township, where he died in 1888, and Mrs. Banker now resides at Memphis, Tenn. There were three children in the Banker family: Bertha, who married Frank Selby, of Madison township; Wilson, a salesman of Memphis, Tenn., who married Hattie Chamberlin; and Helen, Mrs. Faust. Mrs. Robert C. Faust, who survives her husband and resides on the home farm, is one of the best-known residents of Madison township, where she has numerous friends.

Timothy D. Fessenden. For a quarter of a century passengers traveling between the cities of St. Louis and Cincinnati, on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, were known to Timothy D. Fessenden, for during that long period he had a passenger run between those points.

In this long service, his unfailing courtesy, efficiency and general fidelity to the interests of his road made him one of the best known conductors on the line, as well as one of the most popular, and when he retired, in 1916, countless inquiries were made as to his whereabouts and welfare. Mr. Fessenden was born near Hamilton, Ohio, in October, 1851, a son of Benjamin Franklin Fessenden, born October 16, 1816, at Winchester, Mass., and Maria E. (McNeil) Fessenden, of Butler county, Ohio, whom he married September 12, 1844. She was a daughter of Lazarus and Jane McNeil, of Pennsylvania, who were early settlers of near Symmes Corners, Butler county, where Mr. McNeil was a farmer, and where both he and his wife died in 1860. The McNeil children were: Nancy A., who married Dr. Lawson Smith, of Hamilton; Sarah Jane; Maria Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Fessenden; Martha, who married Thomas Mitchell, of Hamilton; Cornelius W. H., who married Maria H. Gaston, of Mount Healthy, Ohio; and Rebecca Caroline, who married L. H. Vinnedg. Benjamin F. Fessenden was a son of Timothy Fessenden, who was born June 6, 1773, and died October 22, 1834. He married Submit Hunt, of Winchester, Mass., born May 17, 1775, and they became the parents of seven children, as follows: Reuben, born February 1, 1801; Rufus, born August 7, 1802; Timothy, born August 22, 1804; John, born September 30, 1806; Benjamin F., born June 5, 1809; Maria, born January 4, 1812; and Benjamin F., II, born October 16, 1816. The parents of Timothy D. Fessenden were killed in a railroad accident at Cumminsville, O., September 28, 1858. They were honest and honorable, God-fearing, agricultural people and faithful members of the Presbyterian church, and were the parents of six children: an infant daughter, born in 1845; Mary F., born September 5, 1846, married March 17, 1869, John A. McConnell, who died July 23, 1901, and she died October 12, 1918; Lazarus, born June 10, 1849, died August 16, 1850; Timothy Dwight, of this notice; Lazarus F., born March 18, 1854, married September 5, 1877, Margaret Brown of Sedalia, Mo.; and Jennie E., born May 14, 1857, died August 3, 1860. The first of the Fessenden family to come to this country was John Fessenden, who, with his wife, Jane, emigrated from County Kent, England, and settled at Cambridge, Mass., in about the year 1636. They had land at Cambridge and Charlestown, John Fessenden was admitted as a freeman in 1641, and both were members of the Church at Cambridge in 1658, the name on the Church record being "Fezington." John Fessenden was a selectman at Cambridge and died in 1666, while his wife Jane survived until January, 1682. As they had no issue it was necessary to send to England for heirs to the estate, and Nicholas and Hannah Fessenden, supposed to be brother and sister, and nephew and niece of John Fessenden, came to this country. Timothy Dwight Fessenden is of the sixth generation of this family. Mr. Fessenden was but seven years of age when his parrents died, and he went to make his home with his Grandfather McNeil until the latter's death in 1860, when he took up his residence at the home of his uncle, Cornelius McNeil, where he lived until 1865. He secured his education in the private school of Professor Starr, at Seven Mile, and at Hamil-

ton, O., and in 1868 went to Sedalia, Mo., where for two years he was a clerk in a shoe store. Being naturally attracted to railroad work, in 1870 he secured a position with the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad, running between that point and Parsons, Kans., as baggageman and freight conductor. November 1, 1875, he went to work for the O. & M. Railroad, out of St. Louis, as brakeman, holding that post until 1877, when he became freight agent at Flora, Ill. In 1882 he was given a passenger conductor run on the Baltimore & Ohio, or the line that later became a part of that system, running between St. Louis and Cincinnati, and for twenty-five years continued to perform his duties faithfully, retiring February 19, 1916, since which time he has resided in his comfortable home at Seven Mile. Mr. Fessenden was married February 1, 1876, to May J., daughter of Isaac and Malinda (Ray) Snively, the former born August 20, 1820, and the latter a daughter of Philip and Eleanor Ray, of Butler county. Mr. and Mrs. Snively were married June 1, 1848. The first of the Snively family to come to this country was John Snively, of Switzerland, born in 1659, who fled to the American colonies to escape religious persecution. He settled in Lancaster county, Pa., in 1714, was naturalized at Philadelphia, October 14, 1729, and died in 1743. He left one son, Henry Snively, sr., born in 1771, and died November 2, 1826. He married Catherine, daughter of Henry and Barbara Hershey, born February 28, 1776, and died August 17, 1847, who had come as a child to Butler county. Henry and Catherine Snively had the following children: Joseph, born August 28, 1795, married December 14, 1817 to Eleanor Stottler, born August 1, 1793, who died July 20, 1819, and after her death again married; Henry, jr., married first Miss Clark, second Catherine Hurst and third Isabella Wills; David, born April 30, 1804; married October 30, 1828, Sophia Falls; Jacob, born April 20, 1804; Samuel, born March 13, 1806, married Adeline Leigh; Elizabeth, married Henry Flickinger; Hannah, married James Johnson; Barbara, married first Henry Newcomer and second Samuel Nixon; Benjamin, born in December, 1812; and Isaac C., born August 20, 1820, died September 23, 1869. Isaac C. Snively, father of Mrs. Fessenden, was educated in the home schools of his native locality and lived on the home place for a number of years, becoming one of the well-to-do agriculturists of his community and finally removing to Seven Mile, lived there for a few years, later removing to the old home place where he lived retired and died there. He was an influential citizen and a Republican in politics, and Mrs. Snively was a member of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of the following children: Ellen Catherine, born April 26, 1849, who died May 8, 1850; Andrew Oscar, born November 18, 1850, who married Kate, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Dransfield of Butler county, and married, second, Mrs. Beatrice Throckmortin; Mrs. Fessenden; Charles Anderson, born June 29, 1855, who died February 24, 1863; Hannah Maria, born October 20, 1857, died October 31, 1915; Ella Malinda, born September 20, 1860, who married Joseph Clark and died September 10, 1893; Henry Clay, born May 20, 1862, married August 16, 1894, Luverna Yager; Phillip Ray, born November 22, 1865, married

Emma Horner; and Fannie Fern, born November 22, 1865, who died December 5, 1867. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fessenden: Isaac F., born September 20, 1878, who died March 16, 1879; Edwin Allen, born August 14, 1882; and Charles Horace, born January 28, 1885. Edwin Allen Fessenden was educated in the public schools, at St. Louis Manual Training school and at the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he was graduated in 1904. After spending one year at Springfield as a mechanical engineer, he was appointed to the University of Missouri as assistant professor of mechanical engineering, and in 1916 became professor of mechanical engineering in the State College of Pennsylvania. He married Abigail Sayward Roper, of Springfield, Ill., who died December 31, 1915, leaving one child, Mary E. For his second wife, Mr. Fessenden married Louisa French Matheney, also of Springfield. Charles Horace Fessenden attended the public schools, the St. Louis Manual Training school, and the University of Missouri, and after his graduation from the last-named, in 1906, went to New York City. He was with the Aultman-Taylor Manufacturing company of Mansfield, Ohio, for one year, and was then appointed professor of mechanical engineering in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. In June, 1917, he enlisted in the United States service and received his commission as captain in the ordnance department, and was located at the Frankfort Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa. Timothy D. Fessenden is a Chapter Mason at Flora, Ill., and a member of the Commandery at Olney, Ill., and his sons are also members of this order. The entire family belongs to the Presbyterian church, which the parents attend at Seven Mile.

Mathew Fichter was born in Reily township, Butler county, December 7, 1877, a son of George and Mary Catherine Fichter, the former coming to this country from Germany at the age of nineteen, the latter from Alsace-Lorraine when she was nine years old. They were married in Millville, Ohio, and for a few years lived in that town where he followed the trade of carpentering. Subsequently they removed to Morrison, Ill., where he worked as a cabinet maker, a trade he had learned in Germany. After a few years he returned to Millville, thence to St. Charles, Ohio, finally locating in Reily, where he worked as a carpenter to the end of his days. He and his wife were charter-members of the German Reformed church, Millville, and were highly thought of in the community. To them were born the following children: Jacob, Anna, Fred, John, Dora, William, Mathew, and Albert, the last named now deceased. George Fichter died in 1907 at the age of seventy-two and is survived by his widow, who still lives at Reily at the venerable age of eighty-three. Mathew Fichter accomplished his early education in the common schools at Reily, and after leaving school engaged in the butcher business for a period of eleven years. By the exercise of thrift and foresight during that period he was enabled to embark in business for himself, buying out the general store business of H. L. Roll. This soon proved a paying venture and he took into partnership his brother William, and Clarence Evans; the three together have enlarged the business in such a way as to be a credit to themselves

and a real asset to the town. He is prominent in all local activities, both civic and social, and fraternally holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1916 he married Miss Hazel E. Siebert, daughter of Frank X. Siebert of Brookville, Indiana, and they have one daughter, Mary Ellen, aged three years.

William Fichter, one of the substantial merchants of Reily, Ohio, was born in that town, a son of George and Mary Catherine Fichter, mention of whom has been made in the biographical sketch of Mathew Fichter. William's educational training was acquired in the common schools at Reily. After leaving these he took up the calling of butcher and intermittently that of druggist and carpenter. In addition to these vocations he occupied himself with teaching in the local schools for a period of eleven years, inculcating the principles of Americanism in the youth of his generation. Following this he entered into business with his brother, acquiring a one-third partnership in a general store at Reily, where he brought into the business the same insight and judgment that he had displayed so successfully in his previous efforts. Politically he is in sympathy with the Jeffersonian doctrines and has served as postmaster for ten years in his home city. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has shown a true patriotism in all his activities connected with the war. On June 23, 1917, he married Miss Mabel Bell, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca Bell of Hamilton, Ohio, and to them has been born one son, Robert Francis.

George W. Finkbone, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Butler county, has been a life-long resident of this part of the Miami valley, where he is widely and favorably known. The owner of a well-cultivated and highly improved farm located on Brown's run, near Middletown, he brings to his labors a scientific touch that enables him to produce bounteous crops, thereby placing him among the men of ability whose operations are serving to maintain high agricultural standards in this part of the Miami valley region. Mr. Finkbone was born on his father's farm in Butler county, Ohio, February 22, 1867, his parents being John W. and Mary Finkbone. His father, John W. Finkbone, was born in Berks county, Pa., May 22, 1832, a son of John and Susanna (Smith) Finkbone, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. His maternal great-grandfather, George McNealy, served as a soldier during the War of 1812 and lost his life by drowning during the engagement of Lake Erie, while a further military touch is given the family history by the splendid record of John B. Long, Mr. Finkbone's uncle, who fought four years as a Union soldier during the Civil war. John W. Finkbone was but ten years of age when brought by his parents from Berks county, Pa., to Ohio, in 1842, the family settling in Butler county, where the youth grew to manhood and applied himself to the pursuits of agriculture. He continued to be engaged therein during the rest of his active life, but is now retired and makes him home with his son, George W. He has been active in affairs in his neighborhood, and for nine years served as a member of the board of directors of the school board. There were ten children in his family: John W., Mary E., Tobias L., Ezra, Sarah

Jane, George W., Jacob, Susanna, Mattie and Amanda. George W. Finkbone secured his education in the country schools and as a youth was trained to agricultural pursuits. His entire life has been devoted to the tilling of the soil, and he is now the owner of a handsome property, and as a citizen and successful farmer is respected by all who know him. He married Mary E. Slade, who was born in Butler county, daughter of John Wesley and Margaret (Barnhart) Slade, August 12, 1903, and they are the parents of two sons: John, born in 1906; and Tobias, born in 1907. As a citizen Mr. Finkbone has discharged faithfully every duty devolving upon him, and has rendered signal service to his community, having served as a member of the board of directors of the Poplar Ridge school, District No. 13, for eleven years. He is a Republican in his political tendencies, although not an active politician as the term is generally understood. He was reared in the faith of the Baptist church, of which he has always been a member and to which Mrs. Finkbone also belongs.

First & Merchants National Bank of Middletown. Although changes have been made in the names of some of the really important financial institutions of Middletown, several of these are in reality the same concerns which had their inception during the early days of the city's era of business growth, and which have not only profited by the municipality's expansion and prosperity but have themselves been contributing factors to the progress that has made such a growth possible. Leading among these is the Merchants National bank, the largest financial institution of the city and one which has developed along conservative, although progressive lines. This substantial banking house was founded in 1868-1869 by a partnership consisting of Charles F. Gunckel, F. P. Loehr and J. M. Loehr, the object being to carry on a brokerage business under the firm style of Gunckel, Loehr & Co. This style continued until 1872, when the firm merged into the Merchants National bank, an institution which had an original capital of $50,000, Mr. Gunckel becoming president and F. P. Loehr, cashier. Mr. Gunckel remained as the president until 1891, when he disposed of his holdings to Paul J. Sorg, who was made president, and who faithfully, honorably and efficiently discharged the duties of that office until his death, in May, 1902. At that time Mr. Sorg's son, Paul A. Sorg, was chosen president, and held that office until his death, when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, John W. Boyd, a man of known ability and prestige in banking circles of Ohio. The institution was rechartered by the United States Government in 1912 and October 1, 1919, this institution was merged with the First National bank of Middletown, and is now known as the First and Merchants National bank of Middletown.

Elmer M. Fisher. Included among the successful and well-known farmers of Butler county is found Elmer M. Fisher, who has passed his entire life within the confines of the county and has found success and contentment in engaging in the pursuits of the soil. He belongs to the progressive element of the younger generation, is modern in his ideas, and in his citizenship is constructive,

always being in favor of those movements which promise to advance his locality. Mr. Fisher was born at Blue Ball, Butler county, Ohio, December 28, 1879, a son of James H. Fisher. His father was born at Seven Mile, this county, in 1839, and grew up in that community, where he attended the home schools. As a young man he moved to Blue Ball, where he married Emma, daughter of Jeremiah and Mary (Bond) Squires, natives of New Jersey. Mr. Squires was a blacksmith by trade and conducted a shop at Blue Ball, where his death occurred in 1861, while his widow survived him until 1890. They were members of the Presbyterian church and people well and favorably known in their community during their day. They were the parents of four children: Charlotte, deceased, who was the wife of the late Joseph Smith; Emma, who became Mrs. Fisher; Edward, a blacksmith at Blue Ball, who succeeded to his father's business; and Belle, the wife of Alonzo Wolf, of Topeka, Kans. After their marriage, James H. Fisher and his wife located at Blue Ball, where Mr. Fisher engaged in blacksmithing, and for some time was associated in business with his father-in-law. He was highly esteemed in his community as a man of integrity and a good citizen, and left behind many friends at the time of his death in 1900. He was a strong Democrat in his political adherence, and he and Mrs. Fisher were devout members of the Presbyterian church, to the various movements of which they were generous donators. They had four children, as follows: Etta, who is the wife of Erastus Stewart, of Middletown; Charles, who married Mary Bond, educated at Lebanon, Ohio, taught schools for several years, successfully passed a civil service examination, and went to Topeka, Kans., in the employ of the Santa Fe railway, being subsequently called to Washington, D. C., where he has resided for the past twenty years; Aaron L., of Miamisburg, Ohio, who married Alice Cunningham, of Virginia; and Elmer M., of this notice. Elmer M. Fisher attended the home schools during the winter months in boyhood while assisting his father in the work of blacksmithing during the summers. He grew up as a farmer and at the time of attaining his majority entered upon his career as an agriculturist, a vocation which he has followed with success ever since. Mr. Fisher was married November 16, 1900, to Allie May, daughter of Fielding G. and Catherine (Myers) Tullis, of Lemon township. A review of the Tullis family will be found in the sketch of Fielding G. Tullis, elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are the parents of one son, Paul A., born at Blue Ball, March 12, 1899. Following his marriage, Mr. Fisher spent about ten years on different farms in Lemon township, but eventually settled on his present property, which he purchased. This sixty-five acre tract was the old Peter Shultz farm, and upon it Mr. Fisher has made numerous valuable improvements. He has remodeled the house, installing a Delco lighting system, built a substantial garage and in other ways given evidence of his progressive spirit and enterprise. At this time he has forty-five acres under cultivation, and upon it raises considerable tobacco, in addition to doing general farming. He also has some dairy stock, and in all departments of his work has made a marked success, owing to his industry and his

thorough knowledge of the occupation to which he has devoted his life's energies. He is essentially a self-made man, having worked his own way to his present position, is a thorough student of his calling, and is progressive in his every move. He has taken an interest in civic affairs for some years, and has served as school director. His political support is given to the Democratic party.

John Watts Fisher. Steady application to the development of his abilities along a single line has brought about the success of John Watts Fisher, who has long been connected with the American Rolling mill, at Middletown. He is of English ancestry, and from forefathers who often worked under discouraging conditions inherits an obliging nature and keen sense of humor which lubricates his working wheels and brings him in touch with the pleasures, as well as profits, of existence. Mr. Fisher was born in England, May 12, 1868, a son of Daniel and Tabitha (Watts) Fisher. He was one and one-half years of age when he came to the United States with his parents who located at Niles, Ohio, January 4, 1870, his mother dying there not long afterward, June 6, 1870. His father still survives as a resident of Middletown. John W. Fisher attended the public schools of Niles, Ohio, and in 1883 went to Martin's Ferry, where he began work in the rolling mill at that place. In March, 1901, he first came to Middletown, but after a few years removed to Steubenville and continued until 1911, then returning to Middletown to take his present position as a roller with the American Rolling Mill company. He is a skilled and trustworthy workman, possessed of much capacity for close application to his duties, and is therefore valued highly by the company of which he is a representative. At Cincinnati, Ohio, September 26, 1901, Mr. Fisher married Clara Price, who was born December 25, 1879, a daughter of Edward and Sarah (Ball) Price. Her father died December 28, 1892, at Cincinnati, while her mother still lives and is a resident of Middletown. There were five children in the Price family: Mary, a resident of Middletown; Will R., also of this city; George, of Steubenville, Ohio; Clara, now Mrs. Fisher; and Ruth, who died January 27, 1910. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisher were devotedly attached to Mrs. Fisher's sister, Ruth, a beautiful and accomplished young lady, whom they took into their home at Steubenville and did everything that loving care could do to restore her to health. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher there have come four children: Ethel Marguerite, who was born July 24, 1902; Mildred, who was born July 7, 1904; Edwin, who was born June 24, 1907; and John, jr., born November 3, 1910. All of the children display marked musical talent and are being encouraged to develop their abilities in this direction. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are consistent members of the Methodist church, and support its movements, Mrs. Fisher being particularly active in religious and charitable work. She is also prominent in lodge affairs at Middetown, where she was first worthy matron of Prosser Chapter, of the Order of the Eastern Star, an office which she held two years. She continues to display an interest in fraternal work, and at present is secretary of her chapter, in which she has a wide circle of friends. Mr. Fisher is a Mason and a member of the

Elks, and also belongs to the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers. His political adherence is with the Republican party. In 1916 Mr. Fisher built an attractive home in Middletown, the doors of which are hospitably open at all times to the many friends of the family.

James Fitton. Among the old and honored residents of the Miami valley, and especially among those who are natives of this region, few are better known or more highly esteemed than is James Fitton, secretary of the People's Deposit, Improvement and Loan company, a building and loan association of Hamilton. Although a man of intense American spirit, and himself a veteran of the Civil war in which he and others of his family rendered signal service to the country, some of the admirable traits which mark his character and have made him one of the most prominent and useful citizens of his locality, are doubtless traceable to the proverbially sturdy, vigorous and enterprising English ancestry from which he is descended. Mr. Fitton was born at West Charleston, Montgomery county, Ohio, April 5, 1843, a son of James and Hannah B. (Fitton) Fitton. James Fitton the elder was born in England, and, with his brothers William and Samuel, came to the United States in young manhood. Hearing of a wagon manufacturer of Cincinnati named Fitton, who was also from England, the brothers made their way to that city, where James Fitton secured employment with his namesake and learned the wagon making trade. There, also, he met the daughter of his employer, Hannah B. Fitton, and they were subsequently married. Of the brothers, Samuel remained in Cincinnati, where his death occurred, while William, after a short stay at Charleston, went to Dayton, and there his death occurred. On leaving Cincinnati, James Fitton the elder located at West Charleston, where he and his brother were for a time the proprietors of a store, but William Fitton disposed of his interest therein later, and in April, 1844, James Fitton removed to Hamilton, where he started a wagon making industry on the present site of the Third Ward school building. He continued to be connected with this enterprise during the remainder of his life, dying suddenly in 1846 when he had before him an exceptionally bright business future, being possessed in marked degree of the qualities that combine to make for success and commercial prestige. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: William, deceased, who lived at Piqua, married Nancy Van Vacter, who survived him as a resident of Hamilton; Thomas, deceased, who was a banker and merchant of Hamilton, married Lida Brant; Hannah, deceased, who was the wife of W. T. Crawford; D. W., deceased, who was a member of the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served in West Virginia during the Civil war; Samuel D., a banker of Hamilton, now and for years president of First National, who married Mary Falconer; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of S. C. Belden, of Hamilton; Frances, deceased, who was the wife of J. P. Peck, a banker and real estate operator, both dying in California; Rachael, deceased; and James, of this notice. James Fitton the younger was educated in the private school of Nathaniel Furman, and upon completing his

studies in 1857 secured a position as clerk in the grocery of W. C. Millspaugh, on High street, Hamilton. Next, he turned his attention to the broom making industry and was thus employed when the Civil war broke out. Answering the call for volunteers, he enlisted in the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Company C, under Capt. John S. Earhart and Col. Ferdinand Van Diver. This regiment, composed of Butler, Preble, Montgomery and Warren county men, left September 26, 1861, for Paris, Ky., where the regiment was divided, and Mr. Fitton went with a part of his company to Kaiser's station. In January, 1862, the regiment was joined by the 18th Regulars, the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the 2d Minnesota Infantry, this being General Thomas' first brigade. After taking part in the Mill Creek fight, Mr. Fitton was invalided home with typhoid fever, but rejoined his regiment in the following April at Pittsburg Landing, and subsequently participated in the Siege of Corinth and after the taking of Corinth the Regiment, with others, marched back all the way to Louisville, Ky., and later in the engagement at Perryville, where Bragg's troops were encountered. After service at Louisville, the Regiment marched south, fought at Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, and in the following November went into action at Missionary Ridge. Subsequently Mr. Fitton saw hard fighting through Georgia, including the Siege of Atlanta, and owing to the expiration of the three years' enlistment most all the regiment were honorably discharged while on their way to Cincinnati by steamboat. In the absence of the Sergeant-Major on recruiting service, James Fitton was appointed to fill that position just after the capture of Missionary Ridge. He was then ordered to Chattanooga, and later to Nashville and Louisville and Cincinnati, with Captain Kyle and Lieutenant Miller, and at the latter place purchased civilian clothes, and arrived at Hamilton, in September, 1864. After a short visit at his brother's hat store he returned to his mother's home. The brave young soldier became bookkeeper, in April, 1865, in the Cincinnati commission houses of Fox-Wardlow company, a position which he retained one year, and for three years following was with the Schlosser-Beck company. Coming then to Hamilton, he associated himself with his brother, D. W. Fitton, in the dry goods business at Third and High streets, but disposed of his interests therein in 1883. In 1883 he had engaged in the insurance and real estate business, and continued in this line with success until 1893, when he entered the Building Association employment and became on March 27, 1893, the secretary of The People's Deposit, Improvement and Loan company, a position which he has since held. His offices are located at No. 205 Rentschler building, and he has various other business interests, being one of the prominent figures in the business and financial life of the city. His home he makes in his own flat building, at Dayton and Tenth streets. Mr. Fitton is a popular comrade of Wetzel Compton Post, G. A. R. He is a liberal contributor to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he holds membership, and was formerly a Sunday school teacher superintendent and a leader in the choir for many years. In his earlier years he indulged his fondness for travel, and in 1871 toured

England and the continent of Europe. In 1877, because of ill health, he again went to Europe, accompanied by his wife, and spent seven months mostly at Geneva, Switzerland, and in 1909 he and Mrs. Fitton visited Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and had two lovely views of the Sun at Midnight. In 1867 Mr. Fitton married Minnie, daughter of Freeman Flanders, of Richmond, Ind., and to this union there was born one child: Mabel. She married Rev. Samuel A. Stephan, minister of Lindenwald Methodist Episcopal church and now of the West Park Avenue Methodist Episcopal church of Columbus, Ohio, and they are the parents of one son: James Fitton Stephan. Mr. Fitton's second marriage occurred in 1873, when he was united with Katherine, daughter of Jacob Shank of Butler county. She died in May, 1915, having borne two children, both of whom died in infancy. At this date (1919) James Fitton is apparently in excellent health and quite active.

Samuel Dustin Fitton, president of the First National bank died at 10:40 on the morning of Saturday, December 6, 1920, at his home on North Third street, after an illness of three weeks. Mr. Fitton had not been in robust health for several years, but there were no indications that he was facing a fatal illness, even when stricken. It was not until his illness had continued for almost two weeks that there were serious indications that it would terminate fatally. The funeral of Mr. Fitton was held at the family home on Monday morning, December 8, Dr. Charles E. Schenk, of Cincinnati, a former pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church and a personal friend of Mr. Fitton conducting the services, which were largely attended. These services were simple but deeply impressive. The burial took place in Greenwood cemetery. One of the greatest ambitions of Mr. Fitton was to leave to Hamilton as a monument to himself and the bank over which he presided so successfully for so many years, a handsome bank building. Plans for the erection of this building were well under way at the time Mr. Fitton was fatally stricken. It is believed now that the directors of the bank will proceed in the erection of this structure as a monument to their faithful president.

Val Fitzgerald. There are few men who can have the privilege of a pleasant lifetime in one community. Such has been the fortune of Mr. Fitzgerald. He was born in Liberty township in 1863, that year when success was most remote from the northern arms. His parents, Prior and Catherine Fitzgerald, were both natives of Butler county; the former having been born in 1810, rounding out fourscore years of a useful life in this same county; the latter, born in 1823, died at the age of 79. Prior Fitzgerald was a well-known farmer and trader and was one of those hardy pioneers to whom our country owes so much. His family comprised five children: Taylor, Emma, Bruce, Charles and Val, the subject of this sketch. To the public schools of Butler county he is indebted for the elements of knowledge which afterwards he developed into the science of farming, buying, after his mother's death, in 1902, the old homestead shrined in the memories of his youth and early manhood. The farm totals ninety-seven acres, every acre of which is developed to the

highest degree of productivity under the able management of father and son. To some extent he occupies himself with stock raising but for the most part does general farming with marked success. He is a Democrat and fraternally allied to the Knights of Pythias, being a member of the Middletown Lodge of that order. He is deeply interested in the activities of that organization and has progressively filled every lodge office, finally attaining to the signal honor of delegate to the Grand Lodge at Columbus and Dayton. In 1891, Mr. Fitzgerald was united in marriage with Ella, daughter of John and Mary (Sheeley) Green of whom mention is made elsewhere in the sketch of Val L. Green which appears in this work. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald but it died in infancy.

Frank H. Flenner. A number of the progressive agriculturists of Butler county are recognizing the profits to be realized from intelligent specialization along certain lines of agricultural work, and one who has met with success in this direction is Frank H. Fenner, of St. Clair township. While what would be generally termed a general farmer, Mr. Flenner has given particular attention to melon growing, and another important department in his work is the raising of several kinds of live stock. Mr. Flenner was born at Darrtown, Butler county, Ohio, February 13, 1862, and belongs to one of the old and highly respected families of this community. It was largely a matter of chance that brought the Flenner family to St. Clair township. At an early date in the history of Butler county, Daniel Flenner, the grandfather of Frank H., a native of Pennsylvania, left that state with his brothers, Solomon and John, and floated down the Ohio river in search of a suitable location upon which to settle and make a home. With them they brought several horses, and when the boat was anchored opposite the present site of Cincinnati, the horses managed to get loose, and wandered off into the woods. Daniel Flenner, while searching for them, became struck with the possibilities of the country hereabouts, and accordingly entered land, built a log cabin in the woods, and settled down to the task of clearing and cultivating a farm from the dense timber. He subsequently built a home on Locust Hill, near Woodsdale, and continued clearing his land, and at one time was the owner of 1,000 acres. In his later years he went to near Westfield, Edgar county, Ill., where he secured land, built a brick house and other buildings, and continued to farm until his death in 1858. He was the father of eight children: Adam, who was born in Pennsylvania; Isaac, who was a farmer in Illinois, where he died; Robert, a railroad conductor who met his death in a wreck at Connersville, Ind.; and Harriet, Lizzie, Mary, Lannie and Peggy, who all died in Illinois. Adam Flenner, the father of Frank H., had only a limited education in his youth and grew to manhood in Illinois. Later he moved to the vicinity of Darrtown, Butler county, where he resided for fifteen years, at the end of which time he bought a part of the old homestead of 137 acres and continued to cultivate it until his death in 1899, at the age of eighty-six years. He was a Democratic voter, and a man of some influence in his community, where he served as township trustee. His first wife was a Miss Wehr, and they had six children:

Chambers, deceased; Nathan, a retired farmer making his home at Darrtown; Louis, deceased; Harriet, who resides at Darrtown; Lavanda, the widow of John Clements, of Hamilton, Ohio; and Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of Cornelius Irvin, of Darrtown. Mr. Flenner was married the second time, to Ann Hemrich, who was born at Baltimore, Md., daughter of George Hemrich, who came to Ohio about 1845. Mrs. Flenner died in 1907, at the age of seventy-five years. She and Mr. Flenner were the parents of five children: Ollie, who was killed at the Big Four railroad crossing in 1878; Frank H.; James, who is engaged in the threshing business at Trenton, Ohio; Belle, the wife of George Cook, of Westchester, Ohio; and Lizzie, the wife of James Weher, of Overpeck, Ohio. Frank H. Flenner attended school at Woodsdale and grew up on the home farm, where he has always made his home. In 1900 he purchased ninety-one acres of the homestead, and in the same community is operating 209 acres which he rents. He is raising Chester White hogs, mixed cattle and draft horses, carries on farming in a general way, and specializes in the raising of melons, selling the greater part of his product at Middletown. Mr. Flenner and his family have been well known in the county during the past twenty years. He is accounted a man of sterling integrity and a good business man, and as a citizen has always displayed his public spirit. He votes the Democratic ticket and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In November, 1884, Mr. Flenner married Sarah B., daughter of Lewis Boswell, formerly of Cincinnati, but later a horse dealer of St. Clair township. To Mr. and Mrs. Flenner there have been born three children: Stella, who died March 24, 1913, was the wife of Lewis Rupp, a farmer of St. Clair township; Nellie, the wife of John Rupp, a farmer of the same community, with one son, Carl Edward; and Frank, jr., who assists his father.

Merle Flenner, M. D. One of the most genial, cultured and thoroughly learned physicians of the Butler county medical fraternity, Dr. Merle Flenner has for a number of years been engaged in a large, lucrative and growing practice, embracing all departments of his profession, at Hamilton. He is a native of this city, and was born in 1878, a son of Granville M. and Anna (Rust) Flenner. His father, a native of Butler county, was engaged in the hardware business at Hamilton until 1885, when he removed to Peoria, Ill., where his wife died December, 1918, and after her death he returned to Hamilton where he makes his home with his son Merle. There were six children in the family: Edith, John, Granville M., jr., Caroline, Merle and Neil. Merle Flenner completed his high school education at Peoria, Ill., following which he entered the Miami Medical college, at Cincinnati, Ohio, with the class of 1898. He received his medical degree in 1903, and in the meantime spent one year in Paris, where he visited the Paris exposition and also improved his time by attending various clinics in the great metropolis. On his return, and after his graduation from college, he served as interne in the city hospital, Cincinnati, for one and one-half years, and in January, 1905, located at Hamilton, where he has been engaged in general practice. On several occasions he has attended the Mayo

clinics, and has been a constant student, and is a valued and interested member of the various organizations of his calling. He belongs to the Alpha Kappa Kappa fraternity. A consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he has served as the president of the Epworth League. His political affiliation is with the Republican party. Doctor Flenner married Adrienne, daughter of George F. and Katherine Nosler, and to this union there have been born two children: Anna Katherine and George Granville. The family home is the center of an intellectual and cultured social circle, and such home surroundings and influences are largely responsible for that broad outlook and mental vigor which Doctor Flenner evinces in his professional labors, and which have lifted him above the plane of the average metropolitan practitioner.

Sol Flenner. Among the well-known retired citizens of Trenton whose industry, energy and good management have placed them in comfortable circumstances and gained for them a reputable standing among their townsmen, is Sol Flenner. For many years he was identified with prosperous business enterprises at Hamilton, where he established an unassailable reputation for probity and integrity, and when he retired from active affairs it was with the friendship and respect of those who had been his competitors as well as of his associates. Mr. Flenner was born at Westfield, Ill., July 24, 1858, a son of William and Laney Flenner. His father was born at Flenner's Corners, Butler county, Ohio, and his mother on a farm in St. Clair township, in the same county. The Flenner family is one of the old and honored ones of this county, where for many years its members have been largely devoted to agricultural pursuits, although the professions, business and politics have also benefited by their activities. William Flenner was educated in the common schools and as a young man took up farming as his vocation, but in 1855 went to Illinois, where during the three years of his residence he was the operator and owner of a sawmill. Returning to Butler county he had a sawmill for five years on the present site of the plant of Hoover, Owens & Rentschler, and then engaged in farming at Flenner's Corners. Again returning to Hamilton, he continued as a resident of that city for thirty years, and was engaged in a variety of pursuits. He and Mrs. Flenner were faithful members of the United Brethren church, and were the parents of four sons: Charles, an engineer of Hamilton; Daniel, who met an accidental death in 1894, leaving a widow, who had been Miss Effie Dick; Sol; and William. Sol Flenner was given his educational training in the public school at Flenner's Corners, and at the outset of his career thoroughly assimilated all the knowledge available as to proper methods of agriculture and the operation of mills. Eventually, when he left his father's association, he embarked in a sawmilling business at Millville, and continued therein ten years. From this line of activity he turned his attention to the manufacture of mattresses and spring beds, at Hamilton, being for ten years located in an establishment at Seventh and Walnut streets. During his career he also operated a threshing outfit for ten years, all over the county, and spent a like period as the proprietor at Hamilton of a livery

stable, which stood on the present site of the Y. M. C. A. building. During all this time Mr. Flenner had maintained his high reputation as a man thoroughly skilled in the knowledge of matters pertaining to the cultivation and proper treatment of the soil, as well as a man of fine abilities of a business and executive character, and in March, 1915, his associates expressed their confidence in his capacity and ability by electing him director of the Butler County Agricultural association, a position which he still retains, and in which he has made a splendid record for accomplishment and constructive work. Mr. Flener was married in December, 1895, to Louisa Schantz, of Madison township, Butler county, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Augsperger) Schantz, farming people, the former a native of Wayne county, Ohio, and the latter of Trenton and deceased. Of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Schantz, six are living: Frank, deceased, who married Nora McKeown, and have one son, Horace, his widow being now the wife of E. C. Seimer; Louisa, who became the wife of Mr. Flenner; Amelia, who died at the age of forty years, as the wife of R. F. Scudder; Reuben, engaged in the manufacture of mattresses at Hamilton; Christian W., a manufacturer of felt goods, etc., at Hamilton; Mary, the wife of C. H. Heller, of Detroit, Mich.; Herman, salesman of Trenton; and Owen, a salesman traveling out of Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Flenner are fond of travel and believers in its broadening influences, and have visited many parts of their native land, in addition to which, in 1908, they made an extensive tour of Europe, where they viewed all the points of interest during the several months of their stay. They are consistent members of the Presbyterian church at Hamilton, in which Mr. Flenner has been an elder for many years. He is a Republican in his political views.

Alfred L. Foreman. Any list enumerating the constructive citizens of College Corner would be decidedly incomplete that did not include the name of Alfred L. Foreman. Since taking up his residence in this live and growing little city, he has contributed materially to its progress and development in various ways, principally through his services in offices of public importance, and at present is serving in the capacity of postmaster. Mr. Foreman was born at Oxfrod, Ohio, February 15, 1857, a son of Samuel and Mary (Lemons) Foreman, the former a native of Oxford township, Butler county, Ohio, and the latter of Cumminsville, this state. The father, who was possessed of a public school education, followed agricultural pursuits throughout his life in Oxford township, where he died in 1902 at the age of seventy-seven years, and also took an active part in Democratic politics. Mrs. Foreman died in 1911, at the age of seventy-seven years, in the faith of the Methodist church, of which she had been a lifelong member. They were the parents of five children: Alfred L., of this notice; Jennie, who is deceased; Nettie, the wife of L. W. Mason, of Oxford; C. J., connected with the firm of Strauss & company, at Hamilton, Ohio; and one who died in infancy. Alfred L. Foreman attended the public schools of Oxford, and in 1880 took up farming on the old home place in Oxford township, which he operated for five years. He then moved to the

William Greer farm in the same township, and continued as a tiller of the soil for eight years, at the end of which time he took up his residence at College Corner and established himself in the livery business, which he followed for four years. This was succeeded by active participation in the grocery business until 1916, when he was appointed postmaster of College Corner by President Wilson, a position which he has since filled to the entire satisfaction of the people of the community. Mr. Foreman became interested in public affairs while still living on the farm, and for six years served as a member of the board of trustees of Oxford township. Since coming to College Corner he has served as a member of the school board and in the village council, and may be termed as one of the fathers of his village, as he assisted in having College Corner incorporated. He has been variously occupied otherwise in working for beneficial measures. Politically, Mr. Foreman is a stalwart Democrat. July 4, 1879, Mr. Foreman married Jennie Murphy, of Oxford township, and they became the parents of three children: Pearl, who died September 21, 1917, as the wife of C. K. Miller, of College Corner, leaving two children, Mildred and Donald; Harry, of College Corner, who married Sina Earhart and has one son, Harry Lewis; and Floy, who married Raymond Bake, of Hamilton, and has three children, Carl W., Sterling and Eugene. All the members of the family belong to the College Corner Methodist Episcopal church.

Robert Frazee has been identified with the interests of Butler county for more than three-score-and-ten years and has contributed to its material progress and prosperity to an extent surpassed by but few of his contemporaries, and up to within several years ago one of the large landholders of the county. Mr. Frazee was born in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, November 26, 1848, a son of Squire Frazee, the latter born near Carthage, Hamilton county, a son of Maxwell Frazee, of New Jersey. Maxwell Frazee married Lydia Bunnell, who was born in 1790, and who was but one year old when taken by her parents to the present site of Cincinnati, a community then known as Columbia. For a number of years the grandparents resided on a farm two and one-half miles west of Somerville, where the grandfather died in 1855 and the grandmother in 1879 at the age of eighty-nine years. They had five children: Caleb, who went to Indiana, where he died; Squire, the father of Robert; Edwin, who was a farmer of Milford township; Jane, the wife of Cyrus Wilburton, of Parke county, Ind.; and Sarah, who married Benjamin P. Kennedy, of Rush county, Ind. Squire Frazee was educated in the home schools, and practically his entire life was passed on the farm in Milford township, two and one-half miles west of Somerville. He was an industrious man and skilled farmer, made a success of his undertakings, and died in comfortable circumstances. He was a staunch Democrat and he and his wife were Universalists. She bore the maiden name of Mary Irvin, and they were the parents of four children: Sarah, deceased, who was the wife of the late A. J. Kennedy; Annie, deceased, who was the wife of the late Wilson Kennedy; Robert, and Lewis B., a retired farmer of Camden, Ohio. Robert Frazee was educated in the home schools

of Milford township, and remained under the roof of his parents until his marriage, August 27, 1874, to Mary, daughter of James M. and Sylvia Ann (Antrim) Young, the latter a daughter of John Antrim. Mr. Young was a farmer all of his life and a Republican in politics, and he and Mrs. Young were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His death occurred in April, 1914, when he was eighty-one years of age, while Mrs. Young passed away February 12, 1894, at the age of fifty-nine years. They were the parents of four daughters: Alice, the widow of John Shaffer, of Seven Mile; Mrs. Frazee; Lulu, the wife of David McCune, of Miami, Fla.; and Eva, who married John Duffield, of Somerville, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Frazee there have been born two daughters: Sadie, the wife of G. H. Oren, a merchant of Somerville; and Edith, the wife of John C. Barnett, postmaster and a merchant at Seven Mile. During the entire period of his active career Mr. Frazee had been a farmer, but in December, 1906, retired from active pursuits and moved to Somerville, where he has a pleasant home. He owned and rented his farm property until 1917, in which year he disposed of his 148 acres. He has never been an office seeker, and his only connection with politics has been as a Democratic voter. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. As a good citizen and a man of marked integrity and probity, he is held in high esteem and respect in his community.

Carl and Arthur Frechtling. Among the business enterprises of Hamilton which have grown and developed under the stimulating influence of the progressiveness and vigorous activity of their owners, one which has had a particularly successful career is the dairy establishment of Frechtling Brothers, located on South Front street. Founded in 1906, it has advanced and prospered, until today it is a $50,000 concern and considered one of the city's valuable commercial adjuncts. Carl and Arthur Frechtling, the proprietors of this business, are natives of Hamilton, and sons of George and Mary (Richter) Frechtling, also both born at Hamilton, Mrs. Frechtling's birthplace being at 545 South Front street, the present location of the dairy business. George Frechtling was educated in the Hamilton graded schools, grew to manhood in this city, and was here married when but twenty-three years of age. From the time he was twenty years old until he was twenty-six, he was identified with the Deinzer & Stevens company, of Hamilton, after which he and his wife went to Shelbyville, Ind. There Mr. Frechtling engaged in the lumber business by the organization of the Bentwood factory and sawmill, a venture with which he continued to be connected until the time of his death at the early age of twenty-seven years, in an accident on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Glendale, Ohio. Doubtless had he not been called in death at such an early age, Mr. Frechtling would have become a very prosperous man, as he had already, even at the time of his demise, established himself in a paying business with every opportunity for fortune ahead. Both Carl and Arthur Frechtling graduated from the graded and high schools at Hamilton, following which Arthur went to the Ohio State university at Columbus, Ohio, where he took a course in mechanical en-

gineering. Carl went to Purdue university, later to the Iowa State college, at Ames, Iowa, and finally to the University at Madison, Wisconsin. Upon completing his education Carl Frechtling went to Rochester, N. Y., where he became associated with the Brighton Place Dairy company in the capacity of manager. After being with this concern for two years, he was called home to Hamilton, because of the fire which destroyed the Mehrum building, in which he and his brother owned a half interest, their loss through this conflagration amounting to $40,000. Carl decided to remain at Hamilton where, April 1, 1906, he established the dairy business of Frechtling Brothers, his brother Arthur at that time becoming a silent partner. This is now, as noted, a $50,000 establishment, with a daily output of 4,000 gallons of milk. In February, 1918, Carl Frechtling married Glenna Bevington, who was born at Brookville, Ind., but educated at Hamilton, where she has passed the greater part of her life. They have one son, Jimmie, and reside in their comfortable and attractive home at No. 484 Ridgelawn avenue. Mr. Frechtling is a member of the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Sigma Nu college fraternity. Arthur Frechtling, following his graduation from the Ohio State university as a mechanical engineer, took a position in that capacity with the Union Pacific railway at Cheyenne, Wyo., and remained with that corporation for two years. He then accepted a position with a factory at Portland, Me., as superintendent, but after two years transferred his services to the Fairbanks Morse Scale company, for whom he was traveling representative in the states of Kentucky and Ohio, but was later transferred to the office at Tacoma, Wash. In 1908 he was married to Amanda Oetterer, of Hamilton, and in 1909 gave up his position at Tacoma and returned to Hamilton to engage actively in business in partnership with his brother, Carl. He and his wife are the parents of two children, namely: Walton Herrman, born in 1913; and Arthur Carl, born in 1916. Mr. Frechtling is a Knight Templar Mason and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and also holds membership in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Charles Frederick. Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, is noted for the large number of beautiful homes owned and occupied by farmers and it is not amiss to say that Charles Frederick, a prominent young farmer of Liberty township, Ohio, has one of the most modern and attractive homes in that section. A native of Liberty township, he was born November 11, 1876, the younger of two sons of John and Philomena (Smith) Frederick, the other boy, Otto, having met death in a runaway accident. The father was a native of Germany, but came to the United States at the age of fourteen years, locating in Butler county. His first employment was as a farm hand and after following this a number of years he engaged in the grain business at Lesourdsville, Butler county. He was successful in this venture and continued in the business several years, but in the meantime he had acquired about 850 acres of farm land which was the most fertile and promising in that community and when he passed away he was known as one of the large land holders of Butler county and was revered as a citizen whose residence in that community

had been for the best interests of all. His rise to eminence as an agriculturist was all the more enviable because of the fact that he started life as a poor boy who had come to Ohio from Germany without the backing of influential parents, his principal assets being willing hands and an honest heart. His wife, who was a native of Butler county, was a woman of noble traits of character. Charles Frederick received his education in Liberty township and attended high school at Hamilton, Ohio. After leaving school he worked with his father until the latter's death, when he personally took over the farm properties and managed same successfully, and it may be truthfully said that each year since he has been directing the affairs of his property the total crop returns have shown a decided increase. In 1899 he married Miss Addie Clawson, daughter of Wilson and Harriet Clawson. Two children have been born to them: Hugh C. and Donald Sherwood. The father of Mrs. Frederick bears the distinction of being the oldest living settler in Liberty township. In his younger days he was one of the energetic and useful men of the community and age alone has cut short his activity.

Fred Fries. The career of the late Fred Fries is a part of the yesterday of Hamilton, but his substantial commercial efforts are constantly brought to mind by the presence of the business which he founded thirty-seven years ago at No. 123-125-127 S. Third street, and which is now being conducted by his honored widow and worthy sons. Mr. Fries was one of the pioneer business men of Hamilton who laid broad and deep the foundations for business success, building substantially on a policy of honesty and upright dealing, and throughout his long residence at Hamilton was one of his community's best and most helpful citizens, his death, which occurred September 22, 1911, removing a force for progress and honorable advancement which had done much to add to Hamilton's commercial prestige. Fred Fries was distinctively a self-made man. Born in Germany, May 15, 1855, he was a lad of fourteen years, with a common school education, when he came to the United States, and for one and one-half years worked at the cooper trade in New York City. When he was sixteen years old he came to Hamilton and went to work for his uncle in the grocery business, so continuing until he was twenty-six years old. At that time, in partnership with Mr. Bobmeyer, he purchased his uncle's business, and the firm of Fries & Bobmeyer continued in association for two years, when the senior partner became sole proprietor, and added to the grocery a meat market and feed store, the combined business being located, as today, at 123-125-127 S. Third street. Possessed of a shrewd business ability, his investments almost invariably resulted in gain, and his energy converted a modest enterprise into one of large proportions, and this in spite of the fact that in his early years in the acquirement of an education he had been confronted with many obstacles, chief among which was the necessity for personal maintenance. A man of the strictest integrity he always held the unqualified confidence of the public and of his business associates, while his personal character was such as to be beyond reproach. He was a faithful member of the Catholic church and held membership in the

Catholic Knights of America and the Catholic Knights of Ohio. In 1882 Mr. Fries married Barbara Schatt, who was born at Hamilton and has spent her life here, a woman of many fine qualities and of good business ability. She is a daughter of the late Joseph and Kunennda Schatt, both deceased, her father having for many years been a gardener on East avenue. Of the four sons born to Mr. and Mrs. Fries, three are working for their mother in taking care of the business: Fred J., born in 1884, and single; Carl J., born in 1886, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Catholic Knights of America; and Ralph F., born in 1890, a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Knights of Columbus, who married Catherine Brell of Hamilton. The fourth son, Joseph, born in 1888, enlisted in the army during the World war, and was taken sick in France. During his entire stay overseas he was confined to the hospital. After his return to the United States he took up his abode at Ft. Benjamin Harrison and after regaining his health at this fort, returned to his home as an assistant to his mother and brothers in the conduct of the business. He is a member of the order of Eagles. All the boys attended St. Stephen's parochial school, and Ralph F. had a course in the Hamilton Business college. This old, well-liked and highly respected family belongs to St. Stephen's Catholic church, and is noted for its liberality and public-spiritedness, and for its generous support of education and other enlightening agencies.

David L. Frisch. In connection with presenting a list of the reliable and industrious business men of the past who had a share in developing the industries of Butler county, prominent mention should be made of David L. Frisch, who was both a farmer and a manufacturer of brick, and who at the same time was a worthy, constructive and helpful citizen. A self-made and practically self-educated man, he won success through merit alone, and his memory is still green in the hearts of his fellow-citizens despite the fact that some years have passed since he was called to his final rest. Mr. Frisch was born in Bavaria, Germany, March 18, 1839, a son of Michael and Catherine (Welscher) Frisch, of that country, who were married in their native locality, and all of whose children were born there. The father was a shoemaker by trade and did fairly well in his native land, but after the death of his wife, in 1848, partly to get away from associations and partly to secure the opportunities offered in America, he disposed of his interests there and in 1850 boarded a sailing vessel, arriving at Baltimore, Md., after a voyage of six weeks. For a time he resided at Cincinnati, but eventually purchased a small place at Alexandria, Ky., and there continued to engage in farming until the time of his death, at the age of sixty-one years. He and Mrs. Frisch were the parents of five children: John, a shoemaker, who came to the United States in 1849, located first at Cincinnati and then moved to Middletown, where he was a gardener on East Third street until his death; Fred, deceased, who was a farmer in the vicinity of Piqua, Ohio; Eliza, deceased, who was the wife of the late Frank Tieman; Barbara, deceased, who was the wife of the late John Hey; and David L. The fourth child of his parents,

David L. Frisch attended school in Europe for six years, but had no opportunities for an education after coming to the United States, and is therefore self-educated in the language of this country. In 1853, when he located at Middletown, he found employment with John Lauks, and subsequently worked with Jacob Arp at brick making for about three years. He continued in that same line as an employee until 1864, when he established a modest plant of his own at Middletown, where he was located on Third street for several years, as well as at other points, and bought property on Fifth street. In 1878 he purchased the Post farm of seventy-two acres, upon which he made modern improvements, and put up a brick kiln, but four years later sold out to his sons and continued to live quietly in his comfortable home until his death, which occurred November 6, 1918. Mr. Frisch was always a staunch Republican, but did not care for public office. Many evidences of his good workmanship and business stability still exist in Middletown, where, during his active years he did much contract work. He and Mrs. Frisch were members of St. Paul church, and were generous supporters of all worthy movements, religious, moral, civic and educational. They were widely known, were greatly appreciated for their many excellencies of mind and heart, and had numerous warm friends. Mr. Frisch married Miss Kate Baldwein, of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, who came to the United States in 1852 and died in January, 1910, and they became the parents of ten children: Dora, who died in infancy; Louis, who died at the age of fifteen years; Katie, who died when seventeen years of age; Emma, who died young; Charles, deceased, a tailor, who married Lena Wellmer; Mary, who is deceased; Ida, of Stone Lake, Iowa, who married C. Bauman; Edward, a contractor of Middletown, who married Mrs. Mary (Dell) Hall; John, a photographer of Cincinnati, who married a Miss Lane; Homer, a tile and brick manufacturer of Mount Pulaski, Ill., who married Dora Lucas; and Gardner, a farmer, who resided with his father until the latter's death, and married Mary Brinkley. This family is one which is well known in Butler county, and its members are worthy representatives of the name they bear and of the various activities which combine to form the life of the community.

Jacob Fuhr. The American Milling Company at Middletown claims Jacob Fuhr as one of its experienced heaters. Mr. Fuhr's identification with this company dates back to 1909 and during the time that has elapsed he has been faithful and competent in the discharge of his duties. He was born at Philadelphia, Pa., July 14, 1878, a son of William Fuhr. His mother died when he was a mere child, while the father is still living. Besides Jacob there was but one other child in the family: Helen, who became Mrs. Frank Scheeler, and at her death left two children: George and Lillie, the latter of whom is now Mrs. Dewey Smith. Jacob Fuhr received his education in the public schools of Philadelphia, and as a youth became identified with work connected with the rolling mills. He served his apprenticeship, passed through a stage as a journeyman, in which he worked at various cities, and eventually located at Piqua, Ohio, whence he came to Middletown in 1909. Since

then he has been employed in the great plant of the American Rolling mill, in the capacity of heater. The ten-year service pin worn by Mr. Fuhr, and recently presented to him by the company, is emblematic of a decade of faithful, efficient and conscientious service. Shortly after his arrival at Middletown, Mr. Fuhr purchased a very comfortable home located on Park street, where he is wont to entertain his numerous friends on occasion. Like other self-made men, he believes in organization for protection, and is an active and loyal member of the Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers. In politics he is liberal. September 17, 1896, Mr. Fuhr married Mary Stanley, who was born at Bunker Hill, near Lockington, Ohio, December 2, 1878, a daughter of John and Eva (Snoshley) Stanley, highly respected agricultural people who are still living and whose home is near Piqua. One of Mrs. Fuhr's brothers, Isaac Stanley, is a farmer in the vicinity of Piqua; another brother, Frank, resides at Sidney, Ohio; and a sister, Minnie, is the wife of Henry Rice, at Troy, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Fuhr there have been born two sons and one daughter: Willie, born in 1897; Emma, born in 1899; and Stanley, born in 1901. The two sons, who had been carefully prepared in their trades, are at present employed at the American Rolling mill.

George Gailey. In the great plant of the American Rolling mill, located at Middletown, there are represented many of the world's nationalities among the employees. "Bonnie" Scotland has contributed its full quota of sturdy sons, whose natural characteristics incline to make them excellent and dependable workers, and among this category is found George Gailey. Mr. Gailey's service with the company covers a period of eighteen years, and has been faithful and valuable. He was born in Scotland, January 24, 1863, a son of James and Mary (Wright) Gailey, the father dying in Scotland January 1, 1907, and the mother passing away in Middletown, February 2, 1909. There were seven children in the family: George; John, who still resides in Scotland; Joseph, living in Middletown; James and Andrew, who never left Scotland; Mary, the wife of Peter Lillie; Miss Sarah, who also resides in her native land. George Gailey was given the advantages of a public school education in Scotland, and there was apprenticed to his trade as a young man. He mastered its details and was variously employed in the mills of his native country, but eventually felt that he was not making sufficiently rapid progress, and in 1902 emigrated to the United States and at once settled at Middletown. Here he identified himself with the American Rolling mill, and his subsequent industry, fidelity and general ability have combined to gain him advancement and to put him in a position of importance among the workers of the great plant. Mr. Gailey was united in matrimony, July 12, 1889, with Margaret, daughter of James and Jean (Cunningham) Bissett, the mother of whom died when Mrs. Gailey was a child of fourteen years. Mrs. Gailey had three sisters and two brothers, all residents of Scotland: Mrs. Mary Robertson, Mrs. Elizabeth Wells, Mrs. Jean Jeffrey, David and Alexander. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gailey: James, who is

Mrs G Gailey

Geo Gailey

deceased; Alexander, who married Susan Mosier and has one son and one daughter—James and Mary Margaret; Jean, who married Casper Noell and has one daughter,—Margaret Vernon; and Mary Wright, who is attending the Middletown High school class of 1920, and is also studying instrumental music. Mr. Gailey maintains an independent stand in political affairs, being liberal in his views and unwilling to be tied down by party lines. He is affiliated fraternally with the local lodge of the Masonic order and the Tribe of Ben-Hur, and, with his family, belongs to the Methodist church. Since coming to Middletown, he has erected a handsome home at 804 Forest avenue, which is noted for its hospitality.

Bernard C. Gardner. The activities of Bernard C. Gardner in the agricultural community of Reily township, have found expression and an outlet in the carrying on of a business somewhat unique among the occupations to which the residents of this community devote themselves. There is nothing unusual in his operations as a gardener and poultry breeder, but in addition to these lines he also raises ferrets, Belgian hares, and fine-bred hunting dogs, specialties in which he has built up a large business and something of a reputation. Mr. Gardner was born at Hamilton, Ohio, October 31, 1871, a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Pater) Gardner, natives of Germany. The parents came to the United States as young people and settled at Hamilton, where they met and were married, and thereafter followed farming in Butler county. They were worthy, highly respected and God-fearing people, and had a family of ten children. Bernard C. Gardner attended the public schools of the country and at Hamilton, and was also prepared by a course at business college. As a youth he learned the coppersmith trade, which he followed at Cincinnati, Ohio, for seven years, and then embarked in the coal business, which he engaged in at Hamilton for nine years. At the end of that period he became the owner by purchase of the Watkins farm in Reily township, upon which he engaged in gardening and poultry breeding. Gradually, Mr.Gardner began to add side lines to his business, and now a considerable part of his time and attention are given to the raising of ferrets, Belgian hares, finely bred hunting dogs and other animals, and has regular customers throughout Ohio and adjoining states. He is a man of excellent business ability and his standing in commercial circles is of the best. His politics is that of the Democratic party, and as a fraternalist he belongs to the Loyal Order of Moose, at Hamilton. With his family, he belongs to the Catholic church at Oxford. Mr. Gardner was married in 1894 to Louise, daughter of Henry and Susan Heckroth, who was born in Pennsylvania of English descent, and they are the parents of one son, Vernon, who has always been associated with his father in his business enterprises.

Charles G. Gardner, the popular station agent and enterprising and progressive merchant at Woods Station, Ohio, has been a resident of this community all of his life, having been born here December 2, 1879, a son of George and Jennie (Barnes) Gardner. The parents were natives of near Baltimore, Md., where they were

married and where the father conducted a grocery for several years. Later George Gardner went to Portsmouth, Ohio, and subsequently to St. Louis, where he followed merchandising, then locating at Hamilton, Ohio, where for one year he conducted a store on Fifth street. In 1871 and 1872 he was a merchant at Flenners Corner, Ohio, and in the latter year came to Woods Station, where he established himself in business. When the railroad was built through to this point, he was appointed station agent and built the station at this place, and here he continued to reside, in the esteem of his associates and the confidence of the people, until his death in 1907 at the age of eighty years. He was a Democrat in politics, in religion a Universalist, and fraternally an Odd Fellow. Mrs. Gardner, who died in 1913 at the age of seventy-three years, was a Presbyterian, and for eighteen months during the Civil war served as nurse in a Confederate hospital near Richmond, Va. They were the parents of three children: one who died in 1887; one who died in 1875; and Charles G. of this notice. Charles G. Gardner was educated in the public schools, after leaving which he engaged in business with his father. At the time of the elder man's death he assumed management of the business, and also succeeded to the position of station agent. A courteous, obliging man, he has won popularity among the traveling public, and these same qualities have served him well in a business way, combined as they are with his real business capacity, progressiveness and principles of fair dealing. He is a Democrat in politics, but has taken only a passive part in political affairs, although active in movements which promise civic betterment. In religion he is a Universalist and his wife a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Both are well and favorably known in their part of Butler county, where they have many friends. Mr. Gardner was married in 1915 to Leona, daughter of Harvey H. Jones, of Woods Station, and they are the parents of two children: June Margaret and George Harvey.

Colin Gardner. In order to give adequate expression to the influence a man exerts over his fellows, it is necessary to delve into the motives which actuated him and the circumstances under which his activities were inspired. This is seldom done while a man is living, but after he has passed from this phase of existence his contemporaries are better able to judge his character rationally and form a fair estimate of him and his work. Judged in such a manner the late Colin Gardner, who died March 7, 1919, appears very advantageously, for he was a man of alert capability who acted from the finest and most sincere of motives and faithfully performed every duty that devolved upon him in every walk of life. His business associations brought him to Middletown, where for years he was one of his community's foremost citizens, a leader in business, in civic life, in religion, in education and in charity. Mr. Gardner was born November 7, 1839, at Cincinnati, Ohio, a son of James Brewster and Elizabeth (Ludlow) Gardner. He received a high school education at Cincinnati and as a lad worked on his father's farm near Troy, but had aspirations to go to the city and

C. Gardner

work for himself. The family finances were in a rather modest condition, but his father gave him the privilege of raking over the wheatfields the second time, and this he did so thoroughly that the wheat which he secured he sold for $13. With this sum as his worldly wealth he went to Cincinnati, where he secured a position as errand boy with the firm of George W. Jones & company, a wholesale dry goods concern. Almost from the start he was given advancement, and within three years the ambitious youth had become a member of the firm. Mr. Gardner remained with this house up to the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Tytus, of Middletown, December 6, 1870. She was a graduate of Vassar college and a daughter of Francis Jefferson and Sarah (Butler) Tytus. She and Mr. Gardner became the parents of three children: Edward Tytus, Colin jr. and Robert Brewster. Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Gardner resigned his position with George W. Jones & company and located at Middletown, where he went into business with his father-in-law, Francis Jefferson Tytus, in a concern known as the Tytus Paper company. He remained with this enterprise a number of years and was later made its vice-president. Subsequently Messrs. Tytus and Gardner started another paper mill, known as the Gardner Paper company, of which Colin Gardner became president, and later embarked in a new enterprise, the manufacture of paper bags, for which they organized the Ohio Paper Bag company, of which Mr. Gardner was also president. The three concerns were later consolidated into one company, known as the Tytus-Gardner Paper and Manufacturing company, of which Colin Gardner was made president, remaining in that capacity until 1900, at which time he resigned. One year previous to this action, the old Gardner Paper company had been destroyed by fire, and when he resigned as president of the Tytus-Gardner Paper and Manufacturing company he sold what stock he had in that company and bought the ground on which the Gardner Paper company had been located, together with the salvage, which consisted of some of the old machinery, boilers, etc. In the fall of 1900 he organized the Colin Gardner Paper company, of which he was made president, and remodeled the old machine that was there for the manufacture of paper box boards. This industry met with success, due to his capable management, and in 1904 he more than doubled the capacity of the mill by installing another machine, which was larger than the original one. In 1908 he organized the Gardner-Harvey Paper company, installing a very large paper board machine, and in 1916 organized the Gardner Paper Board company and took over the old National Box Board company, which was at that time in the hands of the receiver. All three of these companies met with phenomenal success, due to the efforts of Colin Gardner, who it is conceded was one of the most brilliant business men of his day. He was a Republican, but took no active part in politics, nor did he care for fraternal connections. During the Civil war he served with the 100-day men in the Union service. Throughout his life he was an active member in the First Baptist church. The following memorial tribute to Mr. Gardner was

written by his friend, Daniel F. Rittenhouse, at the time of Mr. Gardner's death: "A man who identifies his life with Christ and higher interests as did Mr. Gardner develops a character that stands like a mighty column set upon foundations sure and steadfast. Such a man builds himself into the character and institutional life of a community. If I were to choose a passage of Scripture upon which to base my remarks today it would be Revelations 3:12, 'Him that overcometh I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.' It was in the stillness of a midnight hour that the painful tidings briefly told me Mr. Gardner had died. I knew that the central pillar of my own world had been moved. I knew that a strong pillar had slipped in the stir and bustle of Middletown's industrial life. I knew that a pillar on which scores of other lives were daily leaning had been shattered. I knew that a pillar in our Baptist church had fallen. But, looking beyond the shadows of darkness I seemed to see a shining steady shaft set on high and read the destiny he has gone forward to realize: 'Him that overcometh I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.' The groundwork of such a victorious life is simple, yet profound. First, a boundless faith shaped and sustained his history. At times the great interests he had were not sharing as largely as they might in profits. Mr. Gardner never lost hope. He confidently believed matters would right themselves again. Rarely could a man be found with more definite convictions, clearer opinions and firmer attitude. He was no shifter. He never played fast and loose with duty; when he saw clearly a course of procedure he went forward with invincible firmness. Again, his sincerity and freedom from sham was an outstanding characteristic, he was keen to detect pretense and hypocrisy and burned against it. Few men are more completely above the spirit of envy. When his own business chanced by unfavorable circumstances to make little or no profits, he could readily rejoice in the success and prosperity of others. Indeed, so anxious was he, so optimistic was he, that he was always hopeful for those who were unpromising. But he had small use for a shiftless man who showed no appreciation for the help others offered him. To the man of earnest purpose and faithful effort Mr. Gardner always gave abundant sympathy and generous encouragement. He firmly believed that every man should earn his right to live by his daily effort. As long as it was physically possible, Mr. Gardner was a wonderful example of what he advocated and was found daily in his office abreast of all the details of his business. Again, there were times when this great man might have been pardoned had he appeared gloomy and downhearted because of seizures of illness. But in reasonable health his spirit of optimism and cheerfulness were as refreshing as the sea breeze. His glad, energetic atmosphere put new spring into your own power of enjoyment. Few husbands manifest such constant, loving interest in his wife as Mr. Gardner showed for Mrs. Gardner who has gone before. In health she was surrounded with abundance. During her protracted illness he was ready to spend the whole of his vast material resources if need be for her comfort and restora-

tion. He once told me some friends had suggested that he leave in our city something as a monument to his memory. He replied that the monument he most desired to leave behind would be his three sons as worthy citizens, properly trained and inspired by such ideals as he had ever tried to hold before their vision. It was this high and noble appreciation for home and family that inspired in Mr. Gardner many simple and beautiful unrecorded charities toward less fortunate families. In all our community a more wonderful example of deep, untiring patriotism could not be found. He demonstrated that a true American citizen is never too old to be patriotic. In his eightieth year the fires of patriotic devotion burned with brilliant glow and he supported with great liberality every measure for winning the war. With all the large interests that filled Mr. Gardner's big heart, none held a larger place than did the First Baptist church. He often regretted his inability to do many things in the church of more public character, but believed every man should serve the Lord earnestly with just such gifts as God had given him. He considered that his gifts lay in the direction of vital sympathy with all church activities, personally present at public worship and money contributed as generously as one could afford. He faithfully practised this teaching to the end. Indeed, every class of persons, every institution in our city, is stricken by Mr. Gardner's death. The laboring men know they have lost a friendly helper. Times when conditions almost demanded that his mills be closed, he was willing to keep the machines operating at a loss rather than that his men should be thrown out of employment. The big, strong men who stood with him full-breasted against the hard business problems that force themselves upon the attention of manufacturers, shake today with inward sobs because this braver brother-soul will walk with them no more in future tempestuous days. Others whom he scarcely knew will miss him riding through the streets from his home to his office. He suffered much, but at last fell suddenly. No dying scenes can be related. Just as the Angel of a new day stepped from one day to the next at midnight, March 7, 1919, the Angel of the Lord overstooped his pillow and whispered the summons of departure. He was gone. He has gone to make Heaven stronger and more beautiful. 'Henceforth he will be a pillar in the temple of our God and he shall go no more out.' 'The finest fruit earth holds up to God is a finished man.' Mr. Gardner was a well-finished man. Such fruit Christ sought in him and seeks in us. May the consolation of the Lord to his stricken household be greater than their anguish. May this lonely darkness bring them through all the years until one by one each shall also be lifted higher to find broader light, sweeter peace and the abiding fellowship of him who has been taken from their arms."

Colin Gardner, jr., scion of an honored family of Middletown, and one of the prominent and influential business men of the city, was born at Middletown, June 30, 1886, a son of Colin and Elizabeth (Tytus) Gardner. A review of the family will be found in the sketch of his father on another page of this work. Colin Gardner,

jr. attended the Middletown public school, and University of Cincinnati, and for three years was a student at Sheffield Scientific school, Yale university, graduating therefrom June 30, 1909. Immediately thereafter he became timekeeper at the plant of the Gardner-Harvey Paper company, and a year or so later was advanced to the sales department of the Colin Gardner Paper company, an allied concern. He was subsequently made treasurer, an office which he held until 1917, at which time he was elected vice-president of this concern as well as of the Gardner-Harvey Paper company and the Gardner Paper company. In addition he is in charge of the sales of these three companies. While his business interests are heavy, demanding much of his time and attention, he has found the leisure as well as the inclination to contribute of his abilities toward the furtherance of worthy movements. In 1917 he became a charter member of Middletown Chapter, American Red Cross, and was made chairman of the Chapter for the period of the war, and has continued in that capacity to the present time. In 1916 he was made a member of the first board of trustees of the Middletown Hospital association, and under the administration of this board the hospital was opened and commenced operation. In 1918 he was elected treasurer of the Middletown hospital and still acts in this capacity. Mr. Gardner is a member of the First Baptist church of Middletown, and of Sigma Chapter fraternity of the Delta Psi at Yale university. His political belief makes him a Republican. April 6, 1911, Mr. Gardner was united in marriage with Ethel, daughter of Allen and Mary Louella (Johnson) Ames, the former of Oswego and the latter of Sterling valley, N. Y. Mrs. Gardner was educated at a convent at Brentwood, L. I., N. Y., and at Miss Bennett's School, Millbrook, N. Y. She and her husband are the parents of four children: Colin III, Ames, Nancy Elizabeth and Eugenia.

Edward Tytus Gardner. One of the chief industries of Middletown is that represented by the Gardner & Harvey company, which is selling and purchasing company for three plants manufacturing superior grades of patent coated boards, paper box boards, blanks and specialties, the Colin Gardner Paper company, the Gardner-Harvey Paper company and the Gardner Paper Board company. The main factor in the development of this large and important concern is Edward Tytus Gardner, who, during a comparatively short career has shown a genius for organization and executive powers that have steadily advanced him to the front rank of manufacturers in this special field. He was born September 16, 1879, at Middletown, Ohio, a son of Colin and Elizabeth (Tytus) Gardner, and received public school advantages, graduating from the Franklin High school, Cincinnati. Soon thereafter, in 1899, he became paymaster in the Tytus-Gardner Paper & Manufacturing company, but in the fall of 1900 resigned that position and went into business with Colin Gardner and G. H. Harvey, incorporating the Colin Gardner Paper company and building its plant at Middletown. He was made treasurer and sales manager at that time, rose to the vice-presidency in 1909, and in the fall of 1917 was made president,

a position which he still retains. In 1904, by the addition of a new machine, the capacity of this plant was more than doubled. In 1909 Mr. Gardner was one of the main incorporators of the Gardner-Harvey Paper company and after building its plant was made vice-president of the concern, advancing to the presidency, in 1917, which he still retains. In 1916, at a sheriff's sale, Mr. Gardner purchased at Hamilton the National Box Board company, which at that time was in the hands of a receiver, and subsequently sold this concern to the Gardner Paper Board company, newly incorporated, of which he was made vice-president. In the fall of 1917 he was made president, and still holds this position. Mr. Gardner is one of the energetic business men of the Miami valley who has created his own opportunities and has made the most of his chances. Essentially a man of business, he has sought no political offices, and his only interest in public matters is that taken by all public-spirited citizens. He votes the Republican ticket and belongs to the First Baptist church of Middletown, and his fraternal connections are with the local lodges of the Masons and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. April 15, 1909, Mr. Gardner was united in marriage with Janet, daughter of William Blake and Louise (Stockstill) Earnshaw, of Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Gardner was educated at Miss Knox School, Briar Cliff, N. Y., and is one of the popular younger matrons in Middletown's social circles. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner are the parents of two children: Edward Tytus, jr. and William Earnshaw.

John J. Gardner. Of the resourceful agriculturists who have fashioned their careers within the boundaries of Hanover township, one who has made a success of his life and is accounted one of the substantial citizens of his part of Butler county, is John J. Gardner. Mr. Gardner is a native of Newport, Ky., born December 2, 1855, a son of Nicholas and Mary (Viellieber) Gardner, both of whom were born in Germany. Coming to the United States separately, before marriage, the parents met and were united in marriage in Newport, Ky., and after residing there several years came to Ohio and settled first near Hamilton. Later they resided near Darrtown, subsequently moving to Hanover township, and eventually settled permanently on the farm a part of which is occupied by their son. In the evening of life they retired from all active pursuits and took up their residence at Hamilton, where both passed away, honored and esteemed by those who knew them and recognized their many excellent traits of character. They were devout members of the Catholic faith and consistent attendants of St. Peter's Catholic church. Two children were born to them: Kate, who became the wife of John Lagagrost; and John J., of this notice. John J. Gardner attended the public schools of Hanover township, on Millville pike and at Bunker Hill, and eventually was sent to St. Stephen's parochial school of the Catholic schurch, at Hamilton. Returning home, he began assisting his father, and at the time of the latter's retirement from active affairs assumed management of the home farm, which he has conducted successfully to the present time. He owns ninety-two acres of land, on which he has added many im-

provements to those planned and executed by his father, and has a comfortable residence, well-constructed barns and outbuildings, and many of the comforts and luxuries known to the man whose agricultural energies have reached to the enlightenment of the twentieth century. Farming and stock raising have held his attention to the exclusion of other matters, but he takes a keen and intelligent inetrest in township affairs, and is ever ready to public-spiritedly assist worthy movements. Politically, he supports Democratic candidates and principles, and his religious faith is that of the Catholic denomination, he and the members of his family belonging to St. Peter's congregation at Hamilton. In 1888 Mr. Gardner was united in marriage with Carrie, daughter of John T. Lagagrost, of Hanover township, and to this union there were born two children: William, a resident of Hamilton; and Walter, who is deceased. The mother of these children died in 1895, and Mr. Gardner was subsequently married to Mrs. Lena (Sprauer) Ernst, widow of Joseph Ernst, who had three children by her first marriage: Joseph, who married Carrie Huber; Carrie, the wife of John Phillips; and Mary, the wife of John Lagagrost. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gardner: George, Paul and Hilda, all at home.

Peter C. Gardner is one of the enterprising agriculturists of Butler county and the owner of a well improved farm of eighty-one acres in Hanover township. He has always devoted his energies to farming and his efforts have been followed with excellent results, so that he is now one of the substantial citizens of his community. Mr. Peter C. Gardner was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, January 8, 1860, a son of John and Margaret (Schellenbach) Gardner. Peter's father came to America from Prussia, Germany, and his mother was a native of Paris, France. As a youth John Gardner accompanied his parents to the United States, the family settling in Fairfield township, Hamilton county, where he met Miss Schellenbach, who had been brought here by her parents, who located at Hamilton, Ohio, after their marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Gardner spent three years as residents of Hamilton county and then moved to Hanover township, Butler county, and occupied a farm near the present farm of their son Peter C. There they resided until the spring of 1885, when they moved to Hamilton, Ohio, and rounded out their useful and honorable lives, in comfortable retirement. They were faithful members of the Catholic church and were laid to rest in St. Stephen's cemetery, Hamilton, Ohio. Their children were John, who became an Indian fighter on the western frontier and who is now a resident of San Francisco, Cal.; Peter C., who resides on his farm in Hanover township; Albert, who resides at 555 Park avenue, Hamilton, Ohio; and Anna, who is single, is also a resident of Hamilton, Ohio. Peter C. Gardner attended the public schools of Hanover township and St. Stephen's Parochial school of Hamilton and with the completion of his education took up farming for his father. He was married November 29, 1884, to Anna Thekla Mensch, daughter of John and Mary Mensch of Hamilton. After their union Mr. and Mrs. Gardner began housekeeping on the home place, where they resided for about

twenty years and then moved to their present farm, which they have brought to a high state of fertility and productiveness. They are included among the substantial people of their community and can be counted on to support all worthy measures. During the war period they not only gave four of their sons to the service of their country but were liberal in their contributions to all war activities. They are faithful members of St. Peter's Catholic church. Mr. Gardner is a staunch Democrat and takes an active and helpful interest in civic affairs, being at this time a member of the board of township trustees of Hanover township. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gardner are the parents of nine children: Albert, who went overseas with Company H, 4th U. S. Infantry and was in the following engagements: Aisne Def., June 5, 1918; Champagne Def. Marne, July 15 to 18, 1918; Aisne Marne Off. September 12 to 16, 1918; Meuse Argonne Off. September 26 to November 11, 1918; (Signed R. E. Gillesby Captain Company H, 4th U. S. Infantry); John, who went overseas with Company D, 22nd Engineers, was in the following engagements: St. Mihiel and Meuse Argonne fronts; Joseph, who went overseas with the 142d Field Artillery was engaged on the Meuse Argonne front from September 6 to November 11, 1918; Peter, who was stationed at Springfield, Mass., and acted as U. S. guard at Springfield rifle plant until his discharge from service; the other three sons, Bernard, Owen and Jacob were engaged in farming, and two daughters, Miss Margaret, who resides with her parents on the farm and Lena, who married Mr. Clayton Baker, a farmer of Butler county, and have two children, a daughter, Ruth, and a son, Elwood Baker. All of the children were given good educational advantages and have grown to be a credit to their rearing and to their community.

Robert Brewster Gardner. When he entered upon his wage-earning career, Robert Brewster Gardner deliberately chose the hard although thorough route of learning his chosen business in all its details, and therefore accepted a position as laborer. From this his advancement has been steady and continuous, and at the present time he is treasurer of the Colin Gardner Paper company, the Gardner-Harvey Paper company and the Gardner Paper Board company, of Middletown. He was born in this city, July 21, 1890, being a son of Colin and Elizabeth (Tytus) Gardner, a full sketch of whose careers will be found in the review of his father, elsewhere in this work. Mr. Gardner was a student up to the eighth grade of the grammar school at Middletown, and later went to Hotchkiss Preparatory school, Lakeville, Conn. Returning to Middletown in the fall of 1910, he began work as a laborer at the plant of the Gardner-Harvey Paper company. Subsequently, he was promoted to receiving clerk and then to shipping clerk, and later was made assistant secretary of the Colin Gardner Paper company and the Gardner-Harvey Paper company. In 1918 he was made treasurer of these two concerns and of the Gardner Paper Board company, and still acts in this capacity. He is an energetic and capable young business man, who knows his business thoroughly in all its details, and who is devoting his entire time thereto, with the result that he has found no opportunity to engage in public

affairs or fraternal life. He is a Republican voter, and his religious connection is with the First Baptist church of Middletown. Mr. Gardner was married May 21, 1913, to Edna, daughter of Edgar Mott and Katherine (Prather) Woolley, of Cincinnati, and to this union there have been born two children: Elizabeth Tytus and Robert Brewster, jr.

Andrew Jackson Garner. Among the substantial farmers of Butler county is Andrew Jackson Garner, whose attractive residence and productive farm are situated in Reily township. Mr. Garner has passed his entire life in Butler county, where he was born September 26, 1842, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Keever) Garner, the former of Virginia and the latter of Pennsylvania. Samuel Garner was but nine years of age when his parents brought their family in a covered wagon to Ohio, and moved on to Missouri, where they later died, he was bound out to a family named Richmond, living near Millville. There he spent his boyhood and youth in hard work, but when he attained his majority he came into possession of eighty acres of land, part of a property that had been entered years before by his father in Reily township. This he cleared from the heavy timber, put up a log cabin, and made a home in section 26, and passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits, becoming well known and highly esteemed in his community as a practical farmer, a good citizen and a kind neighbor. He and his wife became the parents of twelve children: Rebecca, deceased, who married John Dunwiddy; William, deceased, who married Anna Whalen; Henry, one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the state of Ohio, who married Mary Pierson and after her death Emma Welliver, and having been stricken with blindness, he is now passing the evening of life at the Odd Fellows Home, at Springfield, Ohio; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of David Royhmil; John, deceased, who married Sarah Macklin; Samuel, who married Anna Byrne; Lydia, deceased, who married David Discumbus; Mary, deceased, who married Joseph Everson; Susan, deceased, who married George Ragsdale; George W., a farmer of Reily township, now living retired, who married Susan K. Welliver; Andrew Jackson, of this notice; and Catherine, the widow of James Hawk, of Harrison, Ohio. Five of the above brothers were soldiers of the Union during the Civil war, all belonging to Company I, 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Andrew Jackson Garner attended the public schools of Reily township, after leaving which he started farming for his father, and so continued until his marriage, in 1866 to Marietta, daughter of Ammon and Susan Stitzel. There were five children in the Stitzel family: Harvey, who served as a soldier during the Civil war; John, Ammon, Alfred and Marietta. Andrew J. Garner was also a soldier of the Civil war, being a member of the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Capt. Samuel Wickard and Col. Thomas Moore. He had a good record for faithful performance of duty and bravery in action. After his marriage Mr. Garner settled on his father's farm, on which he continued to make his home until 1894, when he bought his present property, the old William Thompson farm in

Reily township, where he has since carried on general farming and stock raising, and at the present time is the owner of twelve fine Shorthorns. His farm is noted for its modern improvements and its substantial buildings, and as a citizen Mr. Garner is held in high esteem, his public spirit and loyalty having been definitely proven during the great war when he subscribed freely to all war activities. Mr. Garner's first wife died in 1872, having been the mother of three children: Ella, deceased, who married Harry Grisholm and had a daughter, Ethel, who married Harvey Kochendafer and has a child; Hattie, the wife of Horace Brown, of Reily township; and Clayton, deceased. In 1872 Mr. Garner married Mary Gillespie, a review of whose family will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of her brother, John Gillespie.

George W. Garner. This honored Civil war veteran, who is now a retired resident of Reily township, was born in that township, November 15, 1839, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Keever) Garner, the former of Virginia and the latter of Pennsylvania. Samuel Garner was but nine years of age when he accompanied his parents in a covered wagon to Ohio, but his parents subsequently moved on to Missouri, where both died, and Samuel was bound out to a family named Richmond, living near Millville. His boyhood and youth were filled with hard work, but when he reached man's estate he secured eighty acres of the land which his father had entered years before in Reily township, and this he cleared from the heavy timber, put up a log cabin, and made a home in section 26. He passed the rest of his life there in agricultural pursuits and became well known and highly esteemed in his community. He and his wife became the parents of twelve children: Rebecca, deceased, who married John Dunwiddy; William, deceased, who married Anna Whalen; Henry, one of the old members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Ohio, who, since being stricken with blindness, has resided at the Odd Fellows Home at Springfield, Ohio, married Mary Pierson, and after her death Emma Welliver; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of David Royhmil; John, deceased, who married Sarah Macklin; Samuel, who married Anna Byrne; Lydia, deceased, who married David Discumbus; Mary, deceased, who married Joseph Everson; Susan, deceased, who married George Ragsdale; George W., of this notice; A. J., of Morgan township, Butler county, who married Mary Stitzel, and after her death Mary Gillespie; and Catherine, the widow of James Hawk, of Harrison, Ohio. Five of the above brothers were soldiers of the Union during the war between the States, all belonging to Company I, 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. George W. Garner grew up in the midst of pioneer surroundings and acquired his education in the primitive log cabin schoolhouse of his locality, which was fitted with puncheon seats. He was married in 1862 in Reily township, to Susan K., daughter of P. J. B. and Elizabeth (Everson) Welliver, of Reily township, and a granddaughter of Obediah and Hannah (Johnson) Welliver. Hannah was but seventeen years old when she married Obediah Welliver and almost immediately after her union joined her husband in a six-week' trip

overland in a covered wagon to the new Ohio country, and never saw her parents thereafter. She and her husband, who were both Pennsylvanians, secured land from the United States Government at Bunker Hill, and in addition to doing some farming kept a tavern which became very popular with the pioneers, with the result that they became well known and highly respected people of their community during the early days. P. J. B. Welliver was given educational advantages a little in advance of most of the youths of his day, and during his life was frequently called on by his fellow-townsmen to occupy positions of public trust. Following his marriage he lived for many years on the old home place, but eventually moved to Hamilton, at the time of his retirement, and there he and his wife both died in the faith of the Universalists. They had the following children: Emma, who married Henry Garner; Cynthia, who married George Clark, of College Corner; Susan K., who became Mrs. George W. Garner; Minerva, who married twice; Alfred Johnson, deceased, a banker of Hamilton, who married Carrie Frazee; Dr. James E., a physician of Dayton, now deceased; Lottie Jane, who married James Van Ness, of Hamilton; and Sarah and Nancy, who are deceased. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Garner: Cora, who married Edward Chrissman, a farmer of Reily township and member of the township board of trustees, has one daughter, Irene, who is the wife of Thomas Johnson of Richmond, Ind.; Annie, who married Samuel Lesher, and has two children, Abbie, who married Alvin Schwab and has a child, Brice, and Bessie, who married Henry Halter and has two children,—Samuel and the baby; Samuel J., who died in infancy; Jennie, who died at the age of thirteen years; and Emma, the widow of D. L. Stevenson, of Oxford, with two children,—Helen and Charles. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Garner located in a two-room log cabin, but shortly thereafter enlisted for service in the Union army, and during the time he was wearing his country's uniform his wife carried on the farm. When he was honorably discharged, with an excellent record, he returned to the farm, where he remained for two years, and then built the home where he now lives, and where he has 160 acres of good land. When he started operations on this property the land was all in heavy timber, but Mr. Garner cleared it and put it under the plow, and when he retired from active pursuits, at the age of seventy years, he had a fertile and productive tract. Mr. Garner's energy was such, during his active years, that he not only cultivated his own land, but worked as high as five other farms. He is still active and alert, with clear mind and all his faculties, and both he and Mrs. Garner are evidencing the benefits accruing from clean and well-lived lives. They are faithful Universalists, and Mr. Garner is a strict prohibitionist.

William E. Garner. Perhaps in no other line of human endeavor is more conscientious and concentrated effort given to obtaining results than in agriculture. Because of the remarkable progress made in scientific farming within recent years and the well-known pride that each owner takes in developing his acres to

the highest point of productivity there is naturally keen rivalry among the farmers which is invariably friendly, although at times assumes the aspect of sharp business competition. Undoubtedly, no other agriculturist in Riley township, Butler county, Ohio, has more reason to feel elated over what he has achieved with his 278 acres than William E. Garner, who has the greatest faith in the future of the farm lands in this section of the state and who is justly proud over the demonstrated productivity of his holdings. To say that Mr. Garner owns one of the most desirable farms in the state of Ohio would not be exaggerating in the least, as the annual crop returns have been such as to warrant the assertion that his tract is one of the most productive of its size in the state. Also it might be stated that the quality of the yield of the grains and various items of farm produce is of the highest. Personally, Mr. Garner is a man to be admired for his enterprise and energy and the results of his activities are best attested by the enviable success which he has had with his farm. Born in Riley township October 11, 1859, he was the third in order of birth of six children of Samuel and Anna (Byrne) Garner, the others being Maggie B., who became Mrs. William McCoy, but is now deceased; Samuel J., deceased; Mary, who married John Flannigan; Harry of Millville and Alice, deceased. Samuel Garner was born in Riley township and his wife was a native of County Cork, Ireland. She came to this country with her parents at a tender age, her father expiring on a boat during a voyage on the Ohio river. The family located in Cincinnati and later with her two brothers moved to Riley township, Butler county. Immediately after their marriage the parents of William Garner settled on a farm nearby his present abode and both continued to live there until the time of their deaths. William Garner had all the advantages of a good public school education and as he was studious and steadfast he made the most of these opportunities. In addition to attending the Riley township school he also studied in Millville, where his parents resided two years. February 6, 1901, he married Mary E. Remp, daughter of John and Harriet (Brown) Remp, in Ross township. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Remp,—Mary E., Walter, George, Martin, who is a professor in Wooster college, and Olive, wife of the secretary of the agricultural department of Ohio State university. After their marriage William Garner and wife moved to the farm where they now reside. They are the parents of two children, Hary Lee and Hattie Bell. Socially, William Garner and wife are popular in their section, being admired as desirable neighbors and friends. The recent war activities occupied much of the attention of Mr. Garner and he discharged his duties in each connection admirably.

Innis T. Geary, son of John and Elizabeth (Fiscus) Geary, was born near Kittanning, Armstrong county, Pa. He came of sturdy ancestors who proved their worth and patriotism. His great-grandfather, kidnaped in England when four years of age and held until he became seventeen, came to America and fought for Freedom's cause in the Revolutionary war. His father was a veteran of the Civil war from 1861 to 1864, and for four months suffered blindness

from injuries sustained while in service. The subject of this sketch was married to Mary A. Hanna, also a native of Armstrong county, March 29, 1889, at Apollo, Armstrong county, and to the couple were born two sons: Clarence Mervin, now twenty-eight years of age, and Gaily Floyd, now twenty-five. The former married Florence J. Shafor, of Hillsboro, Ohio, and the latter married Esther Shafor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shafor of Jacksonboro, Ohio. Gaily Floyd was also in service during the late war, stationed at Portsmouth, Ohio, as examiner for the British government. Mr. Geary was one of a large family, the children being: Francis, Emeline, Innis, Mary Agnes, Margaret, Olive, Orlo W., James, deceased, Joseph Walter. His mother died in April, 1882; his father in 1901. Mr. Geary came to Middletown nineteen years ago and became identified with the American Rolling Mill company, as a roller, and at the present time is president of the Co-operative Supply company. He is a man of strong character and wide intelligence, a close reader and student and withal very conservative. He has frequently been solicited to accept public office, but prefers private life; he served without pay as a member of the Charter Commission of Middletown. Mr. Geary lives in a beautiful concrete block home of nine rooms on Garfield avenue, and owns also other valuable property. He is a member of the Methodist church, and pronounces himself as "liberal in politics."

Albert Gebhart. Prominent among the representatives of the agricultural industry in Butler county, one who has passed his entire life here and has contributed to the development of his community, is Albert Gebhart of St. Clair township. Mr. Gebhart is now retired somewhat from active affairs, having turned over the tasks of the farm to younger shoulders, but still maintains a keen interest in matters agricultural, supervises the operation of his property, and continues to exercise his energy and influence in behalf of measures promoting good citizenship and general advancement. Mr. Gebhart was born on the farm which he now owns, June 30, 1854, and belongs to one of the old and highly respected families of this part of the Miami valley. His grandfather was George Gebhart, of Pennsylvania, who first came to Montgomery county with his parents as a child, and later settled here permanently in 1848, when he located four miles east of Miamisburg. He was married in that community to Sarah Zortman, of Pennsylvania stock, and subsequently took up land in Hanover township, but after several years removed to St. Clair township and secured 179 acres of land, upon which he made many improvements and built a full set of buildings including a commodious brick house and barn. He died on his farm at the age of eighty-one years, while Mrs. Gebhart passed away at the age of seventy-nine years at Trenton. They were faithful members of the Lutheran church. Martin Gebhart, the only child of his parents, and father of Albert Gebhart, was born in Hanover township, Butler county, and died here in March, 1874, at the age of forty-eight years. He married Mary Ellen, daughter of Robert and Susan Busenbark, of New Jersey, and granddaughter of Robert Busenbark, also of that state, who was an early settler of Butler county, locating in section 12, St. Clair township. Subsequently he

carried on farming operations in section 1, but in his declining years moved to Trenton, where his death occurred, his widow passing away at West Elkton. In addition to farming, Mr. Busenbark carried on grain dealing. Robert and Margaret Busenbark were the parents of eight children: David, Robert, Redding, Doc, Mary, Ellen, Eliza and Margaret, all of whom are now deceased. Following his marriage Martin Gebhart located in section 14, St. Clair township, where he purchased a farm of 160 acres from Adam Gunkle. This had a brick house of six rooms, but Mr. Gebhart later built another brick house, the one in which Albert Gebhart now lives, a ten-room structure erected in 1872. Prior to this, in 1865, he had built a barn, 44x74 feet, and his property was one of the fine country places of the county. Mr. Gebhart was always a farmer and also engaged successfully in raising stock. He was a staunch Democrat, and Mrs. Gebhart was a member of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of four children: Albert; Emma L., the wife of Wilson Scott, of Hartford City, Ind.; Mary, who married William Teadley, of LaCrosse, Wis.; and Margaret, wife of Henry Snively, of Ellwood City, Ind. Albert Gebhart received his education in the public schools and grew up at home. The only boy in the family, he remained with his parents, whom he cared for tenderly, and at the time of his father's death bought the interest of the other heirs in the home property, to which he has since added until he now has 210 acres. This is valuable and well-cultivated land, very productive and fertile, and on it Mr. Gebhart has successfully carried on general farming, in addition to which he has been prosperous in raising cattle, horses and hogs. He has given up a large part of his former labors, but still keeps a watchful eye over the management and operation of the property. Mr. Gebhart is well known and highly respected among the people of his township, where he has been prominent in good movements. He has been active in the work of the First Presbyterian church of Overpeck, which he assisted in building, and of which he has been an official for years. His political faith is that of the Democratic party. On November 10, 1878, Mr. Gebhart was married to Mary, daughter of George and Mary R. Wehr, natives of Germany who came to the United States as young married people and, after a short stay at Cincinnati, took up their abode in St. Clair township, where Mr. Wehr purchased a farm. There he continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits until the time of his death at the age of seventy-eight years. His widow survived him until the age of eighty-seven years and passed away at Seven Mile. They were members of the Reformed church and the parents of the following children: Lawrence, deceased; Annie, deceased, who was the wife of Leslie Warwick; Lena, who married Albert Smith, of Preble county, Ohio; Andrew, formerly a farmer of St. Clair township, but now retired and living at Hamilton; John, deceased, who married Ella Schenck; Margaret, of Seven Mile, widow of Lou Witherow; Mary, who became Mrs. Gebhart; and Lizzie, who married Emiel Whittman, of Seven Mile. Mr. and Mrs. Gebhart are the parents of one son: Clinton L., born on the old home place November 23, 1878, graduated from the Hamilton high

school, and for a time was clerk at the St. Charles hotel, Hamilton. After two years he resigned, and for the past fifteen years has been identified with the Second National bank of Hamilton, where he now holds the post of assistant cashier. Mr. Gebhart is a member of the Y. M. C. A. He married Miss Pearl Morton.

Daniel Gebhart. Among the native sons of Butler county who have won success and occupy an enviable and prominent position in agricultural circles is Daniel Gebhart, who is now engaged in extensive operations on the Franklin road, near Middletown. His salient characteristics are determination, diligence and keen sagacity and upon these he has builded his prosperity, winning high and well-merited measure of success. Mr. Gebhart was born near Poast Town, Butler county, Ohio, in 1875, a son of George H. L. and Caroline H. (Williamson) Gebhart. The family is an old and honored one in the county, where it was founded in pioneer days by the great-grandfather of Daniel Gebhart, John Gebhart, a native of Berks county, Pa., who rounded out his later years in the vicinity of Miamisburg. Daniel Gebhart, the grandfather of Daniel of this notice, was also born in Berks county, Pa., and was still a youth when he accompanied his parents to Ohio. In later years he located in Madison township, Butler county, where he engaged in farming, and also assisted in the building of the state dam, after which he was in the habit of shipping hogs on the canal to Cincinnati. His son, George H. L. Gebhart, was born on the Madison township farm and passed his active years in the cultivation of the soil, being one of his community's substantial citizens. The education of Daniel Gebhart was secured in the district schools of Butler county, and this locality has always been his home. He has never had a cause to wish for a change of location, for here he has found material success, contentment and many friendships and his career has been along pleasant lines. As an industrious, painstaking and progressive agriculturist, he has been able to develop a valuable property, consisting of ninety-seven acres, and on this highly productive land carries on tobacco growing upon a large scale and also does general mixed farming, in both of which lines he has met with prosperity. His transacations have been carried on in a way that assures him of the confidence of his fellows in his integrity. Fraternally, Mr. Gebhart belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters, and his political inclinations are toward the support of the Democratic party and its candidates, although he is somewhat liberal in his views. In 1898 Mr. Gebhart married Mary, daughter of Jacob and Clara (Bowers) Webber, of Butler county, and they have five children: Susie, born July 26, 1900; Clara, born June 23, 1909; Marie, born March 21, 1911; Carol, born August 3, 1913; and Jacob, born January 10, 1917.

Edwin D. Gebhart, who is now actively and profitably engaged in general farming and tobacco growing on Brown's Run, near Middletown, belongs to one of Butler county's old and highly honored families. The present generation owes a debt of gratitude to the pioneers of the Miami valley that can never be repaid. The trials and hardships endured by them to make this region what it is

today, one of the foremost in the Union, cannot be realized by those enjoying the present comforts of an advanced civilization. The grandfather of Edwin D. Gebhart, Daniel Gebhart, was a pioneer of Butler county from Berks county, Pa.; one who, in early life, knew nothing of present day comforts; who, in his boyhood, never dreamed that there was much else in this life than hard work and a struggle for existence. He was still a young man when he came to Butler county and settled in the vicinity of Middletown, which was not in that early day the highly cultivated, prosperous section now known, but was covered in large part by a heavy growth of timber that had to be cleared away that in its place might be planted the crops. In that work the young manhood of Mr. Gebhart was passed, and those who were personally acquainted with him knew well how he applied himself to his task and with what satisfying results. His industry eventually gained him a competence, and in his later years he enjoyed all the comforts and conveniences of life. His son, George Gebhart, the father of Edwin D., was born in Butler county and inherited many of the sturdy pioneer's good qualities. Like him, he was an energetic and industrious man, who, in the winning of a modest fortune, at all times held the respect and confidence of his fellow-men. Edwin D. Gebhart is a great-grandson of Caroline H. Davidson, who was born February 21, 1794, in the State of Delaware, and who, on account of the death of her mother when she was an infant, was reared by her grandmother in New Jersey. She was married March 15, 1815, to Arthur Williamson, of Monmouth county, N. J., who was born November 12, 1792, and died July 9, 1848, she surviving him until December 15, 1878. Of their children, David was born April 11, 1817, and died September 5, 1845, his wife Rachel dying December 31, 1868; Robert was born January 17, 1824, and died October 26, 1846; Absalom was born June 27, 1827, and died November 18, 1905; Ann Mariah was born July 31, 1830, and died August 21, 1852; Henry V. was born February 14, 1838, and died January 25, 1899; and Jane B. died January 24, 1897. Edwin D. Gebhart received his education in the district schools of Butler county, and grew to manhood under the parental roof. He has always been an agriculturist, having probably inherited a predilection for that vocation from a long line of farming forebears, and now carries on mixed operations, with tobacco growing as a specialty. His property is located on Brown's Run, not far from Middletown, and is well improved with good buildings and the soil has been brought to a high state of productiveness through the intelligent use of modern methods of treatment. Mr. Gebhart is interested in educational matters, and has served as a member of the school board in his community. He is fraternally affiliated with the Independent Order of Foresters, and his political allegiance is given to the Democratic party. He is unmarried and makes his home with a sister, Mrs. Bowlus.

James B. Gillespie, son of Robert H. and Margaret (Bigham) Gillespie, was born in Hanover township, Butler county, December 24, 1856. His father was born in Hanover township, son of Hunter and Hannah (Bridge) Gillespie. Robert Gillespie was their only

child. Hannah Bridge Gillespie was the daughter of James and Martha (Dick) Bigham of Morgan township. Their children were: Margaret; Susan, now Mrs. Garrison; Sara, now Mrs. Baldridge. The parents of James B. Gillespie, the subject of this biography, lived near Hitesman's Hill, Hanover township, and here James Gillespie came into the world. Later the family moved to Millville, and settled there. Robert H. Gillespie, James' father, and his mother died, in later years. To them were born the following children: James B., Hannah, now deceased, married Gil Kimler; Hunter, who lives in Ross township; Martha, the wife of Isaac Dick; Charles, deceased; Elmy, who married Sam Timberman, of Ross Township; Ida, deceased, who married Frank Beal; Orie, who married May Fisher, now living in Hanover township; Edward, who married Miss Gerger. James B. Gillespie went to school at Millville. On January 3, 1883, he married Elizabeth Roll, daughter of David and Julia (Brosier) Roll. Mr. Roll was a native of Hanover township, as was also his wife, who was the daughter of John and Martha Ann (Hitesman) Brosier. Mr. and Mrs. David Brosier always lived in Hanover township. They had one son, who died in infancy, and two daughters, Anna, who is Mrs. Allen Gillespie, and Elizabeth, James B. Gillespie's wife. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. James B. Gillespie resided in Hanover township, and later moved to their present home, the old Hunter Gillespie homestead, where Mr. Gillespie had 175 acres, with 125 in Ross township. Mr. and Mrs. James B. Gillespie were the parents of Irma, who married Jess Butterfield, and now living near Venice; Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield have had two children, Edna Elizabeth, and Paul, who died when five years old; Clyde, who married Edith Clarke, of Venice, they have one child, James Williams, who lives in Ross township; Noah, who is unmarried. The family are Presbyterians. Mr. Gillespie was a Democrat and was identified with all war activities. He died November 14, 1919.

John F. Gillespie is a representative of one of the old and influential pioneer families of Butler county, where he is a scion of the third generation of the family in this section of the Buckeye state, and his lineage traces back to Irish and Scotch origin, he being a direct descendant of George and Jane (Allen) Gillespie, the former a native of County Antrim, Ireland, and the latter of Scotland. The sterling progenitors of the Gillespie family, of which the subject of this review is a member, became colonial settlers in Washington county, Pa., where they established their home in the year 1770, but it was later theirs to become pioneers of Ohio. In company with his family, George Gillespie voyaged down the Ohio river and settled near Franklin, Warren county, where they became numbered among the representative pioneers of the beautiful Miami valley. In this section of Ohio they passed the remainder of their lives, and it is of historic interest to record that when the line of the Big Four railroad was being surveyed through this section, its right of way included the little family burial ground, in which were interred the bodies of George Gillespie, his wife and other members of the family, in Warren county, so the remains were disinterred, after the lapse of many years, and were given a new resting place in the ceme-

tery at Franklin. The children of this sterling pioneer couple were James, John, George, Mary, Mrs. Bradford; Martha, Mrs. Dick; Richard, Thomas, Margaret, Mrs. Kirkwood; Edgar, and Robert, the last named figuring as the grandfather of him whose name initiates this review. There was one other son, William, who died in infancy. Robert Gillespie was a child at the time of the family removal from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and was reared to manhood in Warren county, where his father took up a tract of heavily timbered land and initiated the development of a farm. Robert Gillespie, whose death occurred March 12, 1854, was united in marriage, October 16, 1782, to Miss Mary Robinson, who survived him by a score of years, her death having occurred February 16, 1874, and both having passed the closing years of their lives in Butler county, where they settled in the early pioneer days. They became the parents of a fine family of twelve children: Nancy, Mrs. Corwine; John, James, Jane, Mrs. McCloskey; George H., Sarah, Mrs. Fawcett; Mary, Mrs. Wilson; Alexander, Samuel, William R., Robert D., and Wilson. Robert D. Gillespie, father of John F., of this review, was born in Morgan township, Butler county, where he was reared under the conditions that marked the pioneer epoch in the history of the county, received the advantages of the common schools of the period, and eventually became a successful farmer, as gauged by the standards of the locality and times. In 1847 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Caroline Bolser, who was born in Ross township, this county, where her father, John Bolser, was an early settler. After his marriage Robert D. Gillespie continued his farm enterprise in Morgan township until 1860, when he removed to St. Charles, in Reily township, where he and his wife continued to reside until their death. Of their children the eldest is Mrs. Alice Schultz Abbot, of Oxford, Ohio; Delos W. resides at College Corner; Josephine is the wife of Clement Conn; Florence, deceased, was the wife of Richard Barbour; John Franklin is the immediate subject of this sketch; Mary is the wife of Andrew J. Garner; Douglas was the next in order of birth; Caroline, deceased, was the wife of Lumbra Bevis; and Sarah is the wife of Dr. Harry H. Smith. The parents were earnest members of the Presbyterian church, and their characters and generous attributes gained and retained to them unqualified popular esteem, the while they did well their part in connection with community life and productive farm industry. John Franklin Gillespie was born in Morgan township, Butler county, on November 7, 1856, and thus he was a child of about three years at the time of the family removal to Reily township, where he was reared to manhood and where he profited fully by the advantages afforded in the public schools. Thereafter he supplemented his education by a course of study in the Holbrook Normal school at Lebanon, but from his early youth to the present time he has not faltered in his allegiance to and appreciation of the great basic industry of agriculture, of which he is now a prominent and successful exponent in Reily township. In 1885 he took unto himself a wife, and in the following years they established themselves on their present fine homestead farm, upon which he has made many excellent improvements of modern order,

the place being equipped with good buildings and giving every evidence of thrift and prosperity. Mr. Gillespie, in his civic attitude as well as his industrial activities, has well upheld the sterling reputation and honor of the family name, and has taken loyal interest in all things concerning the welfare of the community, his political allegiance being given to the Democratic party, and he having given a quarter of a century of effective service as a member of the school board of his district. He and his wife are zealous members of the Presbyterian church, in which he is an elder, their active membership being in the church of this denomination at Reily. In 1885 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gillespie to Miss Alice Lowe, who was born and reared in Bethany, Butler county, where her parents, John and Elizabeth Ann (Pilkington) Lowe, established their home upon coming from Baltimore, Md., to Ohio. Of the Lowe children the eldest is Harry, M. D., who is engaged in the practice of his profession at Piqua, Ohio; Genevieve was the next in order of birth; Mrs. Elizabeth Ayers of Denver, Colo., is the next younger; and Alice is the wife of the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie have five children: Pauline is the wife of Lawrence Reed and they have one child, Harold. Bryce W. married Miss Celia Smith and they have two children, Ellsworth and Ruth. Alice Marie has served since 1917 as a zealous and devoted worker in the foreign-mission department of the Presbyterian church, and at the time of this writing she is stationed at the Presbyterian mission in the ancient city of Tabriz, Persia; Robert and Helen remain at the parental home.

Lee B. Gillespie is another of the native sons of Butler county who is here giving excellent account for himself as an exponent of agricultural and live stock industry. The farm which he operates is owned by his father and comprises eighty-two acres of the fertile and valuable soil of Ross township, the place being well improved and giving fruitful tribute of production under the progressive management of the subject of this review. Lee Burton Gillespie was born in Millville, in Ross township, Butler county, and the date of his birth was May 11, 1887, so that he is now one of the younger representatives of farm enterprise in his native township. Lee B. Gillespie early gained fellowship with the varied duties incidental to the operations of the home farm, and in the public schools he continued his studies until he had availed himself of the advantages of the high school at Hamilton. He continued to be associated with his father in farm activities until his marriage, in 1914, when he established his residence on his present farm, to which he has since given his effective supervision, as one of the alert, vigorous and successful representatives of agricultural industry in his native county. He is always ready to lend his support to measures and enterprises advanced for the general good of the community, is a Democrat in his political allegiance and both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church. On January 1, 1914, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gillespie to Miss Frances Martha Boyle, daughter of Elias and Elizabeth (Hughes) Boyle, of Hanover township. After the death of his first wife, Elizabeth, Mr. Boyle married Miss

Alice Moody, and of the two children of the first union Mrs. Gillespie is the younger, her brother, John M., who married Miss Elizabeth McClellan, being now a resident of Dayton, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie have a winsome little daughter, Mildred B., who was born May 31, 1916, and who maintains a gracious rule over the pleasant family home.

Orie Gillespie, operating the fine old homestead farm, in Hanover township, is well maintaining the prestige of the family name, both as a loyal citizen and as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Butler county. On the farm which is his present place of residence, Mr. Gillespie was born February 9, 1874, a son of Robert and Margaret Gillespie, honored citizens, of whom more specific mention is made in the sketch of their son, James B. Orie Gillespie profited duly by the advantages afforded in the public schools, including those in the village of Millville. After leaving school Mr. Gillespie assisted his father in operating his farm until the time of his marriage, in 1903, when he and his bride established themselves on a farm, not far distant from the old homestead. There he continued his activities until the death of his father, July 4, 1908, and then he returned to the old place where he was born, and assumed the control and active management of the same, being exceedingly successful in his operations. In politics Mr. Gillespie, while never ambitious for official preferment, gives his support to the cause of the Democratic party, and he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church. He contributed liberally to the various loan and war savings stamp drives, as well as to the Noble Red Cross work during the period of the World war, and in all respects he is known as a loyal citizen well worthy of the high esteem in which he is held in his native county. In the year 1903 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gillespie to May Fisher, who was born and reared in Butler county and who is a daughter of Jacob and Mary Fisher, highly respected citizens of Millville. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie were the parents of a daughter who died in infancy.

William Oliver Gillespie, was born near St. Charles, Butler county, the son of William R. and Elizabeth (Kemple) Gillespie. His father, William Gillespie, was a native of Butler county. His mother, Elizabeth Kemple, was the daughter of George and Catherine Kemple. William R. Gillespie and wife lived on a farm north of St. Charles, and to them were born the following children: Israel B., deceased; Francella, now Mrs. George Huber, of Hamilton, Ohio; Jeanette, deceased; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Emmett Wilson, of Mixersville, Ind.; Catherine, now Mrs. Charles Bess, of Reily, Ohio; and William Oliver. The Reily township No. 8 school was the seat of learning at which Oliver Gillespie received his early education. January 31, 1889, he married Mary Porter, the daughter of Harry and Emily (Davis) Porter, who were the parents of James, deceased; Ellis L.; Mary, wife of William Oliver Gillespie; Martha; and Blanche, deceased. After his marriage to Mary Porter, Oliver Gillespie lived in Reily township for four years carrying on farming successfully, and in 1893 moved on a farm in Morgan township. This farm is his today. It is of 156 acres, and is known as the old

McKinstry farm. To him and wife have been born the following children: Hazel, who married Curtis Conery, who lives in Harrison, Ohio, and are the parents of three children, Roberta, Huber, and Morris; Pearl, Warren and Paul.

William Howard Gillispie, belonging to the intelligent class of workers whose activities are contributing to the success of the American Rolling mills, at Middletown, was born at Springboro, Ohio, October 1, 1887, a son of J. Frank and Libbie M. (Stewart) Gillispie, of fine old pioneer stock of the Miami valley, and now residents of Middletown, where J. Frank Gillispie is also employed at the plant of the American Rolling Mill company. William H. Gillispie received his early education in the public schools of Springboro and was about fifteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to Middletown. Here he completed his literary training, and began his independent career as a worker in the American Rolling mill. By degrees he advanced in position till he became a roller, a position in which he is known as a dependable and thoroughly efficient workman. Mr. Gillispie was married June 22, 1910, to Miss Elva Florence Smith, who was born August 23, 1883, in Butler county, and a graduate of the Amanda High school. After taking a course at the Normal college at Lebanon, and Oxford college, she was engaged in teaching school for eight years prior to her marriage. She is a bright and intelligent woman of pleasing and amiable disposition and has numerous friends in Middletown. Her father, Peter Smith, is still residing on the old homestead on Yankee road, Butler county, where her mother passed away June 30, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Gillispie are the owners of a comfortable home on Yankee road and are faithful members of the Methodist church. He is a Republican in his political views, and fraternizes with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

G. R. Gilmore is a native son of Butler county, a representative of one of its old and well known families, as well as a constructive farmer and stock grower. Mr. Gilmore was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, October 19, 1859, and is a son of Jeremiah and Susan (Hopper) Gilmore, the former of whom was born in Fairfield township, and the latter a native of the state of Delaware. William Gilmore, grandfather of G. R., was born and reared in Ireland, and became one of the very early settlers of Butler county, coming to this country January 8, 1808. He was numbered among the earliest of the settlers of Fairfield township, where he reclaimed a farm from the forest wilds, and eventually became one of the extensive landholders of the county. At one time he was the owner of 750 acres of land in Fairfield township, and here he continued his farm enterprise until the time of his death. Jeremiah Gilmore was reared to manhood in Fairfield township and long continued his successful service as one of the substantial and representative farmers of Fairfield township, where he was the owner of a well improved place of 115 acres and where he now is a revered member of the family circle of his son G. R., of this review, while his wife is deceased. Of the eight children five are living: Mertie, Josie, James B., G. R., and George. G. R. Gilmore early became familiar with the various duties in-

volved in the work of the old home farm, and in the meanwhile he profited by the advantages offered in the district schools of his native township. He continued to be associated with the work and management of the old homestead until the retirement of his father, when he assumed full control, which he has since retained. His operations are carried forward on a tract of 115 acres and he gives his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of live stock. For seven years he operated the place primarily as a dairy farm, but at the expiration of this period he disposed of his dairy herd and resumed general farming operations. He was also an active participant in all activities relating to the World war. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Tribe of Ben Hur, and he attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is an active member. In 1884 Mr. Gilmore married Miss Emma Sloffner, and they have three children: Cornelia is the wife of Charles Guilland, and they have one child, Emma Jane; Grace is the wife of Raymond Gates, and they have three children, Gordon, Raymond and Catherine; Sorgen, youngest of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore, remains at home and is his father's assistant in the work and management of the farm.

David Gingerich. Among the progressive business men of Butler county should be numbered David Gingerich, who has been identified with contracting at Middletown since 1903. In his special line of business he has met with marked success and by the energy and zeal which he has manifested has won the confidence, esteem and patronage of the public. Mr. Gingerich was born at Jacksonboro, Butler county, Ohio, in 1879, a son of Christian and Mary (Miller) Gingerich, the former a native of Pennsylvania who came to Butler county as a young man. The district schools of Butler county and the public school at Jacksonboro furnished Mr. Gingerich with his educational advantages, and his boyhood and youth were passed in an agricultural community, although he did not decide on farming when he chose his life career. Instead, he turned his attention to the educator's profession, and for two terms taught school in Butler county, but this period was sufficient to assure him of the fact that teaching was not his forte, and he accordingly sought another avenue of endeavor in which to work his way to substantial position. The business of contracting in a fast growing community seemed to offer opportunities, and as he had some knowledge which fitted him for this business he embarked therein in a small way, and in 1903 came to Middletown. Here he had gradually enlarged the scope of his activities and the volume of his business until he is one of the leading men in contracting in all kinds of brick, stone and frame work. He has numerous large structures to his credit, and has contributed materially to the upbuilding of the community. Mr. Gingerich is the owner of a fine home, located in the Maple Park addition. He was married in 1901 to Clara, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Barr) Morningstar, and to this union there have been born four children: Ralph, a resident of Middletown; and Roy, Mildred and Walter, at home. Mr. Gingerich is a Democrat, but is inclined

to be liberal in his views and is not active as a party man. However, he has been helpful and constructive in his work as a citizen, particularly in the way of educational affairs, as he has been a member of the school board for seven years, and was mainly instrumental in securing the installation and erection of the new school building at Middletown. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias, and he and the members of his family belong to the Baptist church.

George P. Gingerich holds secure prestige as one of the leading contractors and builders in the city of Middletown, where he has been established in business since 1903 and where his extensive operations as a contractor have included the erection of many of the finest residences that have been here built within that period, besides which he has erected a number of modern business structures and public buildings. In connection with his contracting enterprise he retains a large force of employees, including a number of highly skilled artisans, and he has amplified his activities by engaging also in the manufacture of cement blocks for concrete building construction. He has accumulated valuable real estate in Middletown, and is one of the city's substantial business men, with a reputation that constitutes a valuable business and social asset. As a young man Mr. Gingerich was actively identified with farm industry, from which he deflected himself to learn the carpenter's trade, and this vocation naturally led him eventually into independent contracting business—a line of enterprise through which he has gained independence and substantial prosperity. He has served as a member of the election board at Middletown, but other than this has not touched political service, though he is arrayed as a stalwart in the local camp of the Democratic party and is liberal and progressive as a citizen. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which order he has served for many years as trustee at Middletown, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Mr. Gingerich was born in Butler county, Ohio, May 21, 1869, and is a son of Christopher and Mary Jane (Miller) Gingerich, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Jacksonboro, Ohio. Of the eight children, the firstborn, John, died in infancy; Elizabeth is the wife of Christopher Schubert, of Hamilton, Ohio; Clement V. resides at Westwood, a suburb of the city of Cincinnati; Ellen is the wife of Joseph Randall, of Jacksonboro, Ohio; George Pendleton, subject of this review, was the next in order of birth; Eliza is the wife of Solomon Hill, of Middletown; Mima is the wife of Charles Long, of the same city; and David likewise resides at Middletown. March 21, 1892, recorded the marriage of Mr. Gingerich to Miss Daisy Lanier, daughter of William and Eleanor (Harris) Lanier, who are venerable and honored residents of Middletown and whose children are six in number: Minnie is the wife of Charles Brown, of Richmond, Ind.; Daisy is the wife of the subject of this review; Thomas M. and Edward reside in the city of Cincinnati; Ada is the wife of William Kasseman, of Middletown, where resides also Eva, who is the wife of Grover Selby. Mr. and Mrs. Gingerich have two sons: Earl, who was born

January 4, 1902, is a student in the Middletown High school, in 1919; and Glenn, who was born October 31, 1906, is attending the graded schools.

S. S. Glasgow, a native Ohioan and a highly respected citizen, and who is now living in comfortable retirement after many years of connection with business and agricultural interests, was born in Adams county, Ohio, June 4, 1851, a son of William B. Glasgow, a native of the same community. This is an old and honored family of Scotland, from which the city of Glasgow derives its name, and Mr. Glasgow's grandfather was one of three brothers to emigrate from that country to America at an early date, all of whom, however, spelled their names differently. The grandfather located in Rockbridge county, W. Va., and later went to Adams county, Ohio, and became a pioneer settler and later the owner of a large tract of land. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Polly, who became the wife of John Williams; Becky, who married a Mr. Ralston; Rose, who also married a Mr. Ralston; Margaret, who married Robert P. McClure, a captain in the Ohio State Militia; Eliza, who married William P. Breckenridge, a pioneer of Adams county, who is remembered as a great church worker and possessor of a wonderful singing voice which he used to good advantage in the early days in his religious work; Robert A., a farmer of Adams county, and a pioneer breeder of Red Polled cattle; Arthur, who went to California over the plains as a "forty-niner" and met with great success in his search for gold, but when returning home was drowned; and William B. William B. Glasgow was educated in the common schools of Adams county, and passed his life as a farmer, a vocation in which he gained success, becoming the owner of several valuable properties. His first wife died without issue, and he married for his second wife Maria H. McIntire, of Adams county, who died in 1859. They became the parents of the following children: Mary Jane, who married J. J. Kane, of Brown county, Ohio; Dr. Joseph Anderson, now a retired resident of Seaman, Ohio, since 1914, in early life a teacher, and a graduate, 1878, of the Cincinnati Medical college, who for fifteen years was engaged in practice in Highland county; Robert, deceased; Mary Elizabeth, who married J. G. Williams of Seaman, Ohio; William Arthur, who died at the age of twenty-two years; and S. S., of this notice. During the days that preceded the Civil war, William B. Glasgow was a strong opponent of slavery, and was a member of the Underground Railway. He was a Republican in his political views, but in the latter years of his life was inclined toward the Prohibition party because of his unalterable belief in temperance. While he lived to the age of ninety-one years he had never taken a drink of liquor nor entered a saloon, nor had he ever sworn or used tobacco. Satisfied with his home surroundings, he did not care for travel, and it is said that he never rode on a railroad train in his life. He and the members of his family were staunch members of the United Presbyterian church. S. S. Glasgow received his education in the public schools of his native community and resided at home, assisting his father, until his marriage, April 7, 1881, to Lathie E. McClure, of Vernon, Ky. Three

children have been born to this union: Marion M., who graduated from high school at the age of eleven years, and later secured a teacher's license, went to the county seat alone and earned the money to pay his own hotel bill, entered Miami university in 1900 and received his degree of Bachelor of Arts, August 8, 1904, went to Chicago and secured a position with Sears, Roebuck & company, was subsequently with the Western Electric company and the Bagdad Lumber company as an expert accountant and head bookkeeper for five years, and for the past five years with the American Lumber company of Panama City, Fla., is a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian church; Grace G., residing with her parents, a graduate of Miami university, class of 1907, took the chair of French at the Women's college, Jacksonville, Ill., and remained three years, when her mother's health failing, she returned home, occasionally teaching as an extra; and William Wellington, a graduate of Miami university, went to Chicago, where he was with the Western Electric company and Shaw Walker & company, and is now at St. Paul, Minn., with the Library Bureau company. He married Gladys Jones of Chicago, Ill., and has one child, Grace Marie. After his marriage, S. S. Glasgow settled down in Adams county and remained until 1898, being engaged in farming, saw milling and operating a threshing outfit. He then went to Marion, where for three years he was a salesman for the Huber Manufacturing company, and later traveled through Ohio and Iowa as a representative for the International Harvester company. Returning to Adams county, he farmed and dealt in implements for two years, and following this bought a farm in Oxford township, Butler county, which he conducted and operated five years. At that time he took up his residence at No. 422 E. Church street, and for four years thereafter traveled for the J. I. Case Manufacturing company in Ohio, Virginia, Kentucky and South Dakota. After three years spent in the latter state, he retired from active labor and has since resided in his comfortable home at Oxford. Mr. Glasgow has always been a public-spirited citizen and during a period of five years acted as street commissioner in Oxford, an office to which he was elected on the Republican ticket. He is a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, having been reared in the teachings thereof, and has reared his own children in that faith. Both he and his wife are held in the warmest regard by their neighbors and friends.

Christian Goldsmith, a retired agriculturist of Collinsville, Ohio, is rounding out a long and useful life, and although now not engaged in active labors, can turn memory's pages, decade after decade, and note the development of state and nation, having just reason to take pride in the fact that he has done his part in paving the way to the advantages and privileges enjoyed by the present generation. Christian Goldsmith belongs to one of the early settled families of Butler county, Ohio, having been born in Lemon township, June 29, 1837, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Goldsmith, natives of France. The parents came to the United States as single young people and were married in Pennsylvania, from whence they went to Upper Canada and remained for seven years. On their return to the United

States they located in St. Clair township, Butler county, going thence to Lemon township, where the father engaged in farming ventures. Hearing the call of the West, in 1847 Joseph Goldsmith drove through to Lee county, Iowa, where he rented land and was subsequently joined by his family. Eventually he moved to Henry county, Iowa, where his death occurred in 1876, at the age of eighty years, his widow surviving him until 1900, when she passed away at the advanced age of ninety years, three months. Joseph Goldsmith was one of the early preachers of the Mennonite church and was always active in church work. They were the parents of twelve children: John, Catherine and Lydia, all deceased; Benjamin, a resident of Henry county, Iowa; Joseph, who died in 1912; Peter and Elizabeth, both deceased; Christian; Jacob and Anna, twins, residing in Henry county; Fannie, deceased, also of that county; and Magdalena, living in Henry county, Iowa. Like his brothers and sisters, Christian Goldsmith had but little opportunity to gain an education, but made the most of his chances and since his boyhood has been a close observer and reader, so that today he is an intelligent man, with a knowledge of important subjects that could not be gleaned merely from the study of school books. He remained with his parents until 1860, in which year he returned to Butler county, Ohio, with his brother Joseph, and took up the business of threshing, an occupation which he followed year by year, from 1861 to 1915. After his marriage, in 1866, he located at Overpeck, Ohio, and later moved to Milford township, where he engaged in farming for some years and where he still owns a property of 115 acres in section 16. From 1875 to 1914 he also owned and operated a sawmill, but in 1915 retired from active pursuits and since then has been residing in his comfortable and attractive home which he erected at Collinsville. Mr. Goldsmith is a democratic voter, and his religious connection is with the Mennonite church at Trenton. Despite his eighty-two years, he is well preserved and has a splendid memory, which he exercises in an entertaining way for the benefit of his numerous friends who are always attentive listeners to his reminiscences of the early days. October 22, 1866, Mr. Goldsmith was married to Barbara, daughter of John and Barbara (Slaughter) Slonaker, natives of Pennsylvania and pioneers of Milford township. Mr. Slonaker died at the remarkable age of ninety-six years and his wife when eighty-six years old, both in the faith of the Mennonite church. They had six children: Mary, deceased, who was the wife of the late John Unsicker; Mrs. Goldsmith, who died February 23, 1914; Fannie, the wife of Jacob Urz, of Collinsville; John, of Trenton, Ohio; Kate, who married Christian Ummel, of Trenton; and Joseph, of Hamilton. To Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith there were born the following children: Levi, a thresher and sawmill man of Collinsville, who married December 30, 1912, Estella Koffer, of Preble county, and has three children, Howard C., Chester S. and Richard Lee; Elmer, formerly a teacher, who went to conduct a newspaper at Petoskey, Mich., and there died, leaving a widow, who had been Katie Somers; Salina, the wife of Edgar Wykopp, of Burlington, Iowa, who has had three sons, Carl, Chester, deceased, and Elmer;

Oscar, single, who at the age of eighteen years enlisted in the United States Regular Army for three years, at Baltimore, Md., and at the expiration of his first term of service, re-enlisted for another three years; and Anna, the wife of Clay Klopp, proprietor of a grain elevator at Camden, Ohio.

Frederick E. Goldsmith. Industry puts an entirely new face upon the productions of nature. By labor man has subjugated the world, reduced it to his dominion, and clothed the earth with a new garment. The first rude plow that man thrust into the soil, the first rude axe of stone with which he felled its pine, the first rude canoe scooped by him from its trunk to cross the river and reach the greener fields beyond, were each the outcome of a human faculty which brought within his reach some physical comfort he had never enjoyed before. From the earliest times, invention has played a great and important part in the advancement of civilization, and today industry and its development are largely dependent upon the genius of men whose fertile minds evolve new methods and intricate machinery which serve to do away with unnecessary labor and add to the comforts and benefit of mankind. In the Miami valley, one whose inventions have led him to a position of recognized importance and prominence is Frederick E. Goldsmith, of Middletown, president of the Ceramic Machine Tool company and of the Columbia Machine and Tool company, of Hamilton. Mr. Goldsmith was born on a farm in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Joseph M. and Magdalena (Kensinger) Goldsmith, farming people who passed their entire lives at their country place in Milford township. The father retired and moved to Hamilton, where he died in 1908 at the age of seventy-six years, and the mother in 1910, when seventy-one years of age. They were the parents of nine children, of whom seven are living: Mary; Frederick E.; Samuel, of Hamilton; Catherine, who married O. N. Black of Hamilton; Luella, who married A. G. Banks of Dayton; Elizabeth, who married Frank B. Yingling of Hamilton; Florence, who married Frederick Carnahan, who is deceased, of Colorado. Frederick Goldsmith attended the public schools at Seven Mile and resides at home and assisted his father until he reached the age of eighteen years. From early youth he exhibited a genius for fashioning improvements on the farm machinery, and this inventive genius led him to be discontented with the prosaic surroundings of the rural atmosphere, he eventually leaving home to seek his fortune through the medium of his inventions. During his career he has traveled extensively, not only throughout the United States, but all over Europe, in the interests of his inventions, and at the present time he is the owner of many valuable patents and has the credit for some of the most ingenious machinery that has ever been put on the market. Naturally, his inventions have led him into association with other business men in large business concerns, for Mr. Goldsmith, unlike many inventors, is also of a practical turn of mind and is possessed of excellent business capacity. While his home has been at Middletown, where he has had a modern residence at No. 709 S. Main street, since January, 1916, a large part of his interests are centered at Hamilton, where, as noted,

he is president of the Ceramic Machinery company and of the Columbia Machine & Tool company. His standing in business circles is that which can only be acquired by a man of high principle and unfaltering integrity, while his social and fraternal connections are numerous and important. Mr. Goldsmith married Sarah Abbie, daughter of David and Sarah (Smith) Gruber, who were residents of near Millville, Ohio, the former a native of Indiana, and the latter of Clermont county, Ohio. Mr. Gruber died in 1867, aged forty-eight years, his widow surviving until June 18, 1907, when she passed away in the faith of the Presbyterian church, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Of their twelve children, four are living: Emma, of Middletown; Martha E., who married John Burcky, of that city; Jane, the widow of Paul J. Sorg, also of Middletown; and Mrs. Goldsmith. Mrs. Goldsmith is a faithful member of the Baptist church, and Mr. Goldsmith is a Methodist. They have numerous friends at Middletown, who are always made welcome at the pleasant and attractive Goldsmith home, situated at No. 709 S. Main street.

Gustave M. Goldsmith. An identification with a concern of prominence and importance in the business world is always taken as evidence of general worth and executive capacity, and, such being the case, Gustave M. Goldsmith may be noted as one of the substantial and capable business citizens of Hamilton. Coming to Hamilton in 1905, he has since been connected with the Mosler Safe company, of which concern he is now vice-president. Mr. Goldsmith was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1883, a son of Max S. and Dora Goldsmith, residents of Cincinnati. Max S. Goldsmith has long been prominently known in business circles of Cincinnati as a substantial manufacturer, and at this time is president of the Goldsmith Metal Lath company. There were two children in the family: William M., of Cincinnati, secretary and treasurer of the Goldsmith Metal Lath company; and Gustave M. Gustave M. Goldsmith attended the public schools of Cincinnati, and after his graduation from the high school went to Cornell university, from which institution he was graduated in 1905. Mr. Goldsmith has a wide acquaintance in manufacturing circles of Hamilton and other cities, has the full confidence of his associates as a man of marked capacity and thorough business knowledge, and in his daily transactions has exemplified the possession of high principles and a strict code of business honor. He was married in March, 1907, to Alma Meyer, born at Chicago, Ill. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith: Dorothy, aged ten years; and Gustave M., jr., aged six years. The family residence of the Goldsmiths, a handsome home, is located at No. 154 N. Ninth street, and is the scene of many social gatherings, where Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith extend the most gracious hospitality to their many friends. Mr. Goldsmith is a member of the Hamilton club, the Butler County Country club and the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, and has a number of civic connections. He has not entered actively into public life, but has always been a staunch supporter of movements which have been constructive and beneficial.

Fred W. Goos, one of the most progressive farmers of Butler

county, son of Fred and Catherine (Hartmann) Goos, was born in Germany, the oldest of a family of eight children: Fred W., our subject; Anna, Mrs. William Krauth; Katherine, Mrs. O. Schlichter; William; Marie, Mrs. Albert Hermann; Richard; Albert; Elsie, Mrs. William Lipp. In 1987, Fred Goos, the father, brought his entire family, including Fred W., then quite a lad, to this country and first settled in Hamilton, Ohio, but after a residence of several years there, removed to a farm in Ross township, Butler county, where his death occurred in July, 1919. The mother still occupies the home farm. Fred W. received his education in both Germany and this country at Hamilton, and thus had some advantages in that regard not generally the privilege of the average young person. In Germany, also, he learned engineering, and for some time while living in Hamilton was employed in the capacity of engineer by the Benninghofen company. In 1906 he was married to Mary Heyntermeister, daughter of Samuel Heyntermeister. Her parents were of Swiss nativity, but the death of the father having occurred in Switzerland, the widow and children came to make their home in the United States. To Mr. and Mrs. Goos, have been born four children: Richard, Elinore, Margaret and Helen. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Goos moved to a farm of 174 acres in Ross township, Butler county, and engaged in the active life of a farmer. This farm was known as the John Wilcox place, and then belonged to Mr. Goos's father, but as a result of diligent application and careful management, it is now the sole property of the son and one of the best and most productive farms in Butler county. Mr. Goos is a member of a family whose standing in the community is of the very highest. He is himself very active in any undertaking that tends in any way to advance public interests, and during the World war was one of the most energetic and untiring leaders in important activities. He is a successful man, and that success has been achieved through his own indefatigable efforts. In church relationship, Mr. Goos is a Lutheran and a member of St. Paul's congregation.

Richard F. Goos. Although he was born in Germany and spent the first eleven years of his life there, Richard F. Goos, a prominent young farmer of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, demonstrated his loyalty to the United States during the recent World war by participating in movements that would promote the best interests of the Allies and by subscribing liberally for Liberty bonds, and from the first day that he landed in this country as a young boy he has manifested a deep interest in the welfare of the country and since reaching maturity has done everything in his power to make himself a useful citizen. He was born in Weinheim Baden, Germany, May 12, 1883, the fourth child in a family of five of Frederick and Catherine (Hartmann) Goos, who were also natives of that country. The father was a miller and as he had heard much of the United States and the excellent opportunities for obtaining employment in his line of endeavor, in 1894 he decided to move his family to this country, and after arriving in the United States he located in Hamilton, Ohio, where he worked for Crout and Benninghofen and later took up farming near Lindenwald, which he continued for a time with suc-

WILLIAM C. GOSHORN

cess. The opportunity of purchasing an attractive farm of 180 acres in St. Clair township, Ohio, presented itself and he took advantage of this, buying and occupying this property for about twelve years, when he purchased another farm of 120 acres, also in St. Clair township and remained here until his death in July, 1919. These two ventures from a financial standpoint proved decidedly successful and he became known to other agriculturists for some years as a man who had a thorough knowledge of farming and one who was equally well versed in farm values, and in addition to crop raising he was engaged quite extensively in cattle raising and dairying, these features to good advantage. He was a devout communicant of St. Paul's church of Hamilton, Ohio. The children, besides Richard F. were: Frederick, who is occupying his father's old place in St. Clair township, and who married Mary Heyntermeister, they having four children: Richard, Elinore, Margaret, and Helen; Anna, who married William Krauth, a well known agriculturist of St. Clair township; Katherine, who is the wife of Oscar Schlichter, an agriculturist of Hanover township, Ohio, and whose family consists of Frederick, Elenore and Elsie; Marie, who is the wife of Albert Hermann and who lives with her husband and two children near Hamilton, Ohio; and Albert. The latter is living on the old homestead with his mother. Richard F. attended the schools in Ross township and lived at the old home until his marriage in 1911 to Louise Munsfeldt of Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany. He had made two visits to the Fatherland and was married during his second trip. On his return to the United States he was associated in farming for two years with his brother Frederick and accumulated sufficient means to purchase his present productive farm of 161 acres in Ross township. This was known as the old Killian place. All of this tract is under cultivation, with the exception of about twenty-five acres. He has twenty-seven head of excellent Holstein cattle. He also raises hogs and does a general farming business. Adhering to the religious belief of his parents with the same admirable devotion he is a member of St. Paul's church of Hamilton, Ohio. He is the father of four children: William, Richard, Alfreda, Gertrude and Ernest. He has never identified himself with any political party, being an independent voter and prepared to support at all times men whom he feels are best suited to hold public office.

William C. Goshorn. For a period of nearly sixty-five years, members of one family have superintended Greenwood cemetery, Hamilton. Since 1855, when Andrew J. Goshorn was appointed, the superintendency has been in the Goshorn name, and during the past quarter of a century William C. Goshorn has been the incumbent of this honored position. It is worthy of note that in all this time not the slightest dissatisfaction has been expressed, an unusual condition of affairs where a more or less public service of this length of time has been rendered. William C. Goshorn was born on the site of the residence in which he now lives at Hamilton, March 21, 1855, and is the only surviving child of Andrew J. and Sarah J. (Clements) Goshorn. His parents were natives of Huntingdon county, Pa., the father born June 14, 1819, and the mother January 26, 1821, and ac-

companied their respective families to Ohio, the Goshorns coming in 1849, and the Clements in 1837. The parents were married at Hamilton, June 24, 1849, and established their own home, and soon after this Andrew J. Goshorn secured employment at his trade of tanner in the business of John W. Sohn, with whom he remained about six years. February 7, 1855, Mr. Goshorn received the appointment as superintendent of Greenwood cemetery, upon the recommendation of one Dr. Cyrus Falconer, being the third to hold this position. His ensuing service extended over a period of forty years, continuing until the day of his death, March 21, 1894, which, by a strange coincidence, was his son's thirty-ninth birthday. At the time that Mr. Goshorn took charge, there had been but 828 interments; at the close of his forty years of service there had been 9,094. During his administration the size of the cemetery grounds had been increased from twenty-one to sixty-seven acres. The great attendance at his funeral, representing people from every walk in life, gave evidence of the high esteem in which he was held at Hamilton and in the surrounding country. He was a staunch Republican in politics, but had no lodge affiliations. He and Mrs. Goshorn were members of the United Presbyterian church. Following her husband's death she went to live with her son, William C., at whose home she resided until her own demise, September 15, 1904. Of the six children in the family, four died in infancy and one at the age of twenty-four years, William C. Goshorn received a good educational training in the public schools of Hamilton, and when his studies were completed became his father's assistant in cemetery work. He succeeded to the elder man's position at his death, because of his natural aptitude for that work and his years of training therein, and was appointed to the superintendency without comment or question. His work as superintendent during a period of twenty-five years has been of a character that has won for him high commendation, a conscientious service that has gained him public friendships, confidence and gratitude. Mr. Goshorn married Miss Laura J. Tiddler, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine Tiddler, early settlers of Hamilton, who had six children, of whom three survive. Mr. and Mrs. Goshorn have had five children, of whom three survive, all having been well educated in the Hamilton public schools. They are: Lou B., who is the wife of Charles Eiver, of Hamilton, but a resident of Jennings, La.; Ida M., the wife of Harry B. Rogers, of Delaware, Ohio, with three sons and two daughters; and Miss Sadie, who still lives with her parents at No. 1123 Heaton street, her father's most capable and energetic assistant, who thoroughly understands the work of handling the cemetery and is able to take full charge when her father is ill or away on business. Mr. Goshorn is a Republican.

Fred E. and Frank H. Graf. The invention of the automobile and its development into its utilization as one of the most important factors in our twentieth-century commercial and social life, has created an entirely new industry, the possibilities of which are not even yet fully appreciated. More and more, of recent years, have men of strong individuality, keen intelligence, firm determination, entered this business, either as manufacturers or dealers, and in the

latter category, at Hamilton, are found Fred E. and Frank H. Graf, who, doing business under the firm style of Graf Brothers, have won notable success and overcome several serious commercial misfortunes. They are sons of Henry B. and Ella S. Graf, the latter a native of Butler county, Ohio, and the former of Indiana. Henry B. Graf was educated in the public schools of his native state, after which he engaged in and followed the foundry business at Hamilton as foreman of the firm known as H. P. Duscher company. In 1898 the family, consisting of the parents and two sons, the only daughter having died in infancy, moved to Miamisburg, Ohio, where the father engaged in the brewery business and remained therein seven years. He is now retired from active affairs and he is a resident of Miamisburg. Mr. Graf was a member formerly of the board of public service at Miamisburg, is a prominent Democrat, and belongs to the lodges of the Elks and Knights of Pythias. Frank H. Graf was born August 30, 1887, at Hamilton and received good educational advantages, attending the graded schools at Miamisburg, high school at Dayton, and a business college in the latter city. Following the completion of his studies he secured employment with the Peckham Garage at Dayton, and subsequently was identified with the Speedwell Motor Car company, and in 1910 embarked in business on his own account at the Gem City. Returning some time later to Hamilton he established himself in business as an automobile dealer in one room, at Third and Market streets, but subsequently moved to the Morey building, and entered into partnership with John Lever. When the Morey building was destroyed by fire, the partnership was mutually dissolved and Mr. Graf embarked in business for himself at No. 321 Market street. In the fall of 1913 he went to Second and Market streets, where he went into business under the style of Graf Motor Car company, but this business was hardly established before the great flood came, damaging the stock to the extent of $10,000. But later the business was moved to its present location at B. & O. and Walnut streets, where the enterprise is now rated at about $45,000. The firm handles Cole, Nash and Maxwell cars and does painting and all kinds of repairing. The brothers are rated high in the business world as men of integrity and ability, and have built up a good business solely through their own efforts and perseverance. November 11, 1909, Frank H. Graf married Anna Hazel Dill, of Dayton, granddaughter of T. C. Lindsey, a prominent jeweler and real estate operator of that city, who erected and owns the Lindsey building there. Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Graf are the parents of one child: Robert, born in 1917. Fred E. Graf was born September 5, 1892, at Hamilton, and received his education in the graded and high schools of Miamisburg. He was variously employed, principally in the automobile industry, until 1915, at which time he entered into business with his brother as a member of the firm. He was married December 22, 1917, to Viola G., daughter of Ernest W. and Ophelia Bringhurst. Mr. Bringhurst was formerly engaged in business at St. Louis, but at this time is general manager of the George Wiedmann Brewing company, at Hamilton. The Graf brothers are Democratic voters, but have found little time to

devote to public affairs, their interest having been engrossed by their business. They are members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and are popular with their fellow lodge members.

John A. Grafft, M. D. Among the most reliable and successful medical practitioners of Hamilton is found Dr. John A. Grafft, who has also been prominent in public and military life. A man of firm convictions and settled purpose, he is practical in his aims, whether as physician or citizen, and thereby has advanced steadily to a high and substantial professional position, having been effective also in the realization of several projects which have been promulgated in conjunction with other good citizens of modern tendencies. Born at Jacksonboro, Butler county, Ohio, November 28, 1866, Doctor Grafft belongs to an old and honored family, the first member of which to come to America was Hans Grafft, a native of Holland, who emigrated to Maryland shortly after the close of the American Revolution and became a large land owner and slave holder. Later the family migrated to Virginia and descendants of that branch went to Nelson county, Ky., where, at Bardstown, Abraham Grafft, the great-grandfather of Doctor Grafft, located in 1800 near what is now Seven Mile, Butler county. Samuel Grafft, the father of the Doctor, was born on a farm near Seven Mile, October 19, 1841, and there passed a long and honorable career as an agriculturist. He married Margaret, daughter of Lot Abraham, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and they became the parents of two children: John A.; and Mary, who became the wife of Arthur Hunter. John A. Grafft received his early education in the country schools of Butler county, and in 1882 entered Miami university for a two-year course. In 1885 he enrolled as a student at Wooster university, from which institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1889, and in that same year took up his medical studies at the Miami Medical college, Cincinnati, Ohio, being given his degree as a member of the class of 1892. For a short time thereafter he practised at Cincinnati, but subsequently moved to Hamilton, where, with the exception of eighteen months passed at Seven Mile, Ohio, and the period of his army service, he has since been located, in the enjoyment of a practice that has grown steadily and satisfyingly in both size and importance with the passing of the years and the recognition of his splendid abilities and talents. Doctor Grafft, in a desire to aid his country, filed his application for enlistment in the United States Army Medical Corps June 12, 1917, and was called to the colors July 1, 1918, reporting to the Central Department, at Chicago, Ill. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to the Post Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, Ind., and then was sent to Camp Dodge, where he was assigned to the 163d Depot Brigade. He remained with that organization for three weeks, when he was transferred to the 31st Medical Replacement Unit, with which he went overseas in September, 1918. After reporting at Base Hospital No. 15, Chaumont, France, he was ordered by the commanding general to Evacuation Hospital No. 7, at Souilly, and then to Grand Pre in the Argonne. Later he went to Base Hospital 15, Chaumont, and subsequently to the commanding

officer at St. Aignan, and from there to the commanding officer of the 27th Division, being assigned to the 107th Field Hospital. With that organization he remained until February 1, 1919, when he was sent to the American Embarkation Center, Le Mans, where he became Division Inspector and continued as such until March 28, when he was assigned to duty at the A. E. F. university, Beaune, Department of Cote d'Or. Reassigned to the Allier Department, Saone-et-Loire, he sailed from Marseilles, June 16, 1919, on the Italian ship, "America," by the way of Gibraltar, and landed on American soil July 2. He received his honorable discharge as first lieutenant of the United States Medical Corps, July 28, and returned to resume his practice at Hamilton. Doctor Grafft is serving as president of the local pension board, having received this appointment while he was still in the service. He acted as a member of the Hamilton, Ohio, Pension Board from 1892-1897. On November 11, 1919, Doctor Grafft was commissioned captain in the Medical Section of the Reserve Corps of the United States Army. "All appointments are limited to discharged officers, to men of demonstrated fitness and gallantry in action, * * * * * with the exception of a small number who had been found qualified for special services and whose appointments were stopped by the Armistice. Advance in rank is not given unless appointee had been recommended for promotion, such recommendation having been initiated and on record in the Adjutant General's office prior to November 11, 1918." Doctor Grafft is a member of the American Legion, of the Butler County Medical society, the Ohio State Medical society, the American Medical association and the Association of Military Surgeons of the U. S. A. He has always taken an active interest in civic affairs, and has been the incumbent of a number of official positions, having been president of the city council of Hamilton for two years. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masonic Blue Lodge, and he and the members of his family belong to the Presbyterian church. Doctor Grafft married Miss Jennie M. Beal, youngest daughter of the late John Timberman Beal and Rebecca (Carr) Beal, pioneer citizens of Butler county, who date their family back as far as 1660. They are the parents of one daughter: Marjorie, who graduated from Miami university with the class of 1919, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

James G. Grafft, M. D. Among the prominent and successful medical practitioners of Butler county, one who has won merited distinction and position is Dr. James G. Grafft, who has been engaged in practice at Trenton for more than a quarter of a century. Not only does Doctor Grafft hold a recognized position because of his talent in a professional way, but because of his connection with one of the oldest of Butler county's families, which was founded here by Abram Grafft, of Maryland, who went early to Kentucky, and came to Wayne township, Butler county, in 1800. At that time this locality was a practical wilderness, overgrown with timber and brush, and the great-grandfather of Doctor Grafft took a prominent part in the early development of the section, clearing his entered farm and making a home for his family.

He passed his life as a farmer, and died, honored and esteemed, on the property which he had secured from the Government. George P. Grafft, son of the pioneer, and grandfather of Doctor Grafft, was born in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, in 1804, grew up on the home place, and was a farmer all his life. He married Mary Ann Moorehead, and they became the parents of five children: Thomas, who met an accidental death in his youth; Abram, the father of Dr. James G.; Samuel, who was a farmer on the old home place and died in 1918; John W., who died on the old home place at the age of twenty-six years; and a daughter, the first born, who died when two and one-half years of age. Abram Grafft grew to manhood on the home farm and attended the old Cotton Run school, after leaving which he resumed farming until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company G, 83d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Jacksonboro, Ohio, August 30, 1862. His regiment was sent to Dayton and later into camp at Cincinnati, Ohio, subsequently going to Arkansas Post. Mr. Grafft was in the engagements of the Red River Expedition and the Siege of Vicksburg, and after a brave and faithful service was mustered out at Galveston, Texas. Returning home, the brave young soldier resumed farming, on the old home place, where he remained until his death in 1902, at the age of sixty-three years. He married Elizabeth James, of Franklin county, Ind., who died in 1885, his second wife being a widow, Mrs. Briggs, who died at Seven Mile, Ohio. Mr. Grafft was a lifelong Democrat, a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was a man widely and favorably known in his community, where he had numerous warm friends. The only child of his parents, James G. Grafft was born at Seven Mile, Ohio, February 25, 1867. As a lad he attended school at Jacksonboro, where one of his schoolmates was James M. Cox, who later became governor of Ohio, and from 1885 to 1890 was a student at Wooster academy. In 1893 he was graduated from the Miami Medical college, and at that time took up his practice at Trenton, which has since been his home and the scene of his marked professional success. He has a large and representative practice and stands high both in public confidence and in the esteem of his fellow-practitioners, who have recognized in him a man of medical and surgical skill and of the highest professional ethics. Doctor Grafft is now one of the owners of the old Grafft homestead, with Mrs. A. B. Hunter. In 1893, at the time of his graduation, Doctor Grafft was united in marriage with Lida Williamson, of Collinsville, Ohio, and they are the parents of three children: Helen, who attended Miami university for two years, and now the wife of A. L. Morner, of Trenton, Ohio, connected with the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown; Jane, who graduated from Miami university in 1918, and is now living at home and a teacher in the high schools of Monroe; and Walter James, educated in the public schools and now at home, who was in the United States Navy for fifteen months, having enlisted December 3, 1917. Doctor Grafft has been variously identified with matters of importance at Trenton, professional, business and civic. For several years he was president

of the Trenton bank. He has always taken a good deal of interest in the welfare of his city and county, and served as a member of the school board and the town council. In political adherence he is a Democrat. In Masonry, he belongs to the Blue Lodge at Middletown, the Chapter and Commandery at Hamilton and the Scottish Rite at Dayton. He and Mrs. Grafft are consistent members of the United Presbyterian church at Trenton.

Moses Graft. Few men have enjoyed a wider acquaintance, and none have been held in higher respect and esteem, than the late Moses Graft, who was the proprietor of a grocery and dairy business at West Middletown for some years, and whose standing in commercial circles was of the highest. Mr. Graft was born at Middletown, Ohio, April 21, 1861, a son of John and Anna (Barnett) Graft. His father had come from Cincinnati, during the early '50s, and located on the Jim Sutphin farm, where he rounded out a long and honorable career as an agriculturist. Of his ten children, five still survive: John and Samuel, residents of Middletown; William, of Hamilton; Martha, the wife of Dave Lansing, of Middletown; and Fannie, the wife of William Whitehead, of this city. Moses Graft was educated in the public schools and not long after his graduation from the Middletown High school entered upon his business career. He was known far and wide because of his splendid traits of character, and his death, which occurred December 25, 1918, caused deep and widespread sorrow among a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. February 21, 1881, Mr. Graft married Jennie, daughter of Charles and Sarah (Jarvis) Commer, who was born in Virginia and was a mere child when brought by her parents to Middletown. To this union there were born eight children: Stanley, who is deceased; Maude Ellen, the wife of Otis Bruce, of Middletown; Pearl May, the wife of Wilbur Miller, of Middletown; Gertrude, the wife of Clyde Mears, of Middletown; Edward, who married Ellen Frye, and resides in this city; Bertha Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Frank Thompson, of Middletown; Robert, who married Zella Bryant; and Stella, who is deceased. Mrs. Graft, who is highly esteemed in West Middletown, still retains her home here, and finds comfort in visiting among her affectionate children. She is a devout member of the United Brethren church and has accomplished much good work of a religious and charitable nature.

Arthur M. Graham, whose milling and elevator business has been one of the chief commercial factors of Oxford and vicinity since 1912, was born at Morning Sun, Preble county, Ohio, November 16, 1873, a son of Thomas and Elmira (Bell) Graham, also natives of that county, and a grandson of pioneers of Israel township, Preble county, who passed honorable lives in the pursuits of the soil. The parents are deceased and rest in Hopewell cemetery in Preble county. Their children were: Arthur M.; Walter, who married Anna Bolmer and lives at Oxford, where he is connected with his brother's milling business; and Jennie, the wife of Charles Elliot, who is employed at the mill at Oxford. Arthur M. Graham is indebted to the public schools of Oxford for his educational

training. When he put aside his school books, it was to accept a position as a farmhand with R. M. Wilson, and when he reached his majority he embarked upon an agricultural career of his own. The farm, however, held him only for seven years, as he was inclined to follow a commercial life, and in 1901 he came to Oxford and entered into the milling business as a packer in the Oxford Roller mills. Rapid promotion followed and he became thoroughly familiar with every department of the business while rising to the position of miller. In 1912 he became associated in business with William W. Essley and Cecil Pulse. The mill has a capacity of 100 barrels, and its product, the Miami Milling Company's Best Patent, an exceedingly popular brand, has a large sale throughout this locality. Mr. Graham's standing in business circles is one that gives him prestige and marked preferment, and he is held in the highest esteem and confidence by his associates, and his enjoyment of the companionship of his fellows is evidenced in his membership in the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Graham was married November 7, 1912, to Mollie F., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Drain, of Cincinnati. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Graham settled at their new home on South College avenue, Oxford, where have been born their two children: Margaret Sue and James Warren.

William W. Graham was born in the state of Delaware, near Concord, June 9, 1841. During the course of a long and useful career he was known and honored for his sterling integrity, his liberality and sympathy and kindliness, and in his death, on July 18, 1900, Butler county lost one of its well known and highly valued citizens. Mr. Graham was a son of Philip and Ann Graham, who passed their entire lives in Delaware, a state in which the respective families were founded in an early period. William W. Graham attended the public schools of his native state and thereafter found employment for some time as a farm workman in that state, and he was still a young man when he came to Butler county, Ohio, and secured employment on a farm in Fairfield township. He continued thus engaged until the time of his marriage, and after his marriage was for a time engaged in farming near the village of Flockton, whence he finally removed to a farm near what was then known as the Eighteen Mile house. After conducting operations here for several years he purchased and removed to the fine homestead farm on which his widow still resides, and with increasing prosperity he made judicious investments in other tracts in Fairfield township until he became the owner of a valuable property of 265 acres, a portion of which he later sold. Mr. Graham was wide-awake, vigorous and progressive in his activities as an agriculturist and stock grower, and success attended all his efforts. He was loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities, took lively interest in community affairs and served as trustee of Fairfield township, a position in which he continued as the valued incumbent for nine years. He was affiliated with the Knights of Honor. Mr. Graham was married to Mrs. Sarah C. (Bobenmeyer) Morris, widow of L. D. Morris, the one son of the first marriage being

James Wesley Morris, who still resides in Butler county. Mrs. Graham is a representative of one of the old and honored pioneer families of the beautiful Miami valley. She was born and reared in Fairfield township, Butler county, and is a daughter of John and Saloma (Dubbs) Bobenmeyer, the former a native of Berks county, Pa., and the latter of Lehigh county, that state. John Bobenmeyer was a son of John Frederick Bobenmeyer, who was of Holland Dutch ancestry and a scion of American colonial stock. He was but six months old when an Indian uprising in Berks county, Pa., resulted in the massacre of all members of his family except himself and his devoted mother, who escaped with him into the forest, where she remained until the following morning and thus saved their lives. John F. Bobenmeyer was reared to manhood in Pennsylvania, whence he came to Ohio and numbered himself among the pioneer settlers of Butler county. Eventually he removed to Darke County, and there he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. John Bobenmeyer was a child at the time the family home was established in Butler county, where he was reared under the conditions of the pioneer days, and eventually he became one of the substantial farmers of the county, both he and his wife having passed the closing years of their lives on their old homestead farm on the Deerfield turnpike, and in Fairfield township. They became the parents of ten children, all of whom attained to maturity, and on other pages of this work will be found various data and further reference to members of this sterling pioneer family. Mrs. Graham is now one of the venerable and revered pioneer women of her native county, with a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. and Mrs. Graham became the parents of eight children: Albert, married Anna Fields and they have five children—Maude, Charles, Paul, Esther and Donald; John, wedded Gertrude Shepard, and their have eight children,—Gertrude, Walter, William, Ruby, Ernest, Howard, Eugene and Shirley; Anna is the wife of Harry Smith; Maude is the wife of William Lank; Henry, who is still a bachelor, remains with his widowed mother and has active management of the home farm; Charles died in childhood; Clara is the wife of Harry Fouracre and they have one child,—Helen; Walter married Helen Davis and their two children are Dorothy and Maxine.

Val. L. Green, one of the representative citizens of Butler county was born in Fairfield township June 19, 1862. His parents were John and Mary (Sheeley) Green; the former of whom was a native of Maryland, where he grew to manhood. Coming to Butler county he engaged in the pursuits of agriculture, working first as a farmhand and later as an excavator at the hydraulic works at Hamilton, following this latter occupation until its completion. Then occurred his marriage and removal to Fairfield township where he began his career as a farmer, renting the A. S. Miller farm, for a period of forty years; at the close of which he moved to Liberty township. Here he took over the Joseph Taylor farm, half mile south of Monroe, farming there for about four years. With increasing age he gradually withdrew from active life and

went into retirement at Middletown. To him and his wife were born seven children: Taylor; John; Reuben; Val. L., the subject of this sketch; Lydia; Thursay; and Ella. Val. L. Green acquired the early principles of knowledge in the public schools of Fairfield township. Afterwards he was employed at the home farm until the time of his marriage, when he became a renter near Monroe, remaining there for three years. He next moved on the John Sheehan farm at Red Lion, Warren county, residing there for a like period, when he moved to Union township, Butler county. In this location he farmed as a renter for eighteen years until 1911 when, as a reward for long continued industry, he acquired a farm of 104 acres in Liberty township, which he still owns. Well versed in scientific management he has enhanced the value and beauty of his estate which cannot fail to be noticed by the most casual observer. He adheres to the principles of the Democratic party and holds membership in the Presbyterian church at Monroe. In 1897, he took for wife Miss Anna Carr, daughter of James Carr, and to them have been born six children: Leslie, Clarence, Ralph, Mark and Grace; one son died in infancy. Leslie married Marion Lindsey and they have two children: Anna Catherine and Thomas. Ralph married Almerta Stewert.

Charles W. Greer, a superintendent at the plant of the American Rolling Mill company, and a very popular citizen of Middletown, son of Hugh Jasper and Martha (Harpole) Greer, was born in West Virginia, February 7, 1869. He came from a fine old family of West Virginia. His father was a member of the legislature of that state and a public speaker of note. Mr. Greer has now in his possession the manuscript of the last public address delivered by his father on the occasion of a Memorial Day observance. Mr. Greer has a brother and two sisters: William Wirt and Emma, Mrs. Lon Gill, both residents of Huntington, W. Va.; Lona, Mrs. John Greer, Columbus, Ohio. February 25, 1893, our subject was married to Miss Delia Coleman, daughter of Hanson and Mary Minerva (Sweasey) Coleman, and who has two sisters and two brothers: Albert and Thomas Coleman, and Rose, Mrs. McClellan Thornton, living in West Virginia; Dicie Jane, Mrs. Charles Parsons, living in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Greer are the parents of three children: Hugh Jasper, Lena Leona and Helen. The last-named remains at home and is a student in high school; Lena Leona is married to Clyde Smith; Hugh Jasper married Mary Knepschink and to them four children have been born: Charles Russell, Lewis, Mary Ellen and Robert. Mr. Greer is a man of fine presence, generous nature and kindly manner, and is one of the best-liked among the men in the large plant in which he is employed. The family lives in beautiful Lakeside where a magnificent new home has been built. Mr. Greer belongs to the Methodist church in the work of which Mrs. Greer takes a very active interest. In politics, he is liberal.

Henry Grehl. One of the prosperous, hard-working farmers and stockmen of Union township, is Henry Grehl, who owns a large, well managed farm, and is one of the sound, reliable citizens of Butler county. That Mr. Grehl was brought up in an entirely

different line of business, has not interfered with his making a success along agricultural lines for his is considered one of Union township's most judicious and efficient farmers, stockmen and dairymen. He was born in Schlesien, Germany, in 1859, son of Albert and Johanna Grehl, both of whom died in Germany. The father was a dyer by trade, and this trade Henry learned after he had finished his school period. When twenty-two years of age Mr. Grehl came to the United States. He understood, as an expert dyer, considerable chemistry, and found employment in one of the large trade establishments in the city of New York, from there subsequently coming to Ohio and for several years was engaged as a dyer at Dayton, removing from there to Cincinnati, where he worked in dye houses until 1901. In that year he came to Union township, in Butler county, and purchased his present farm of 143 acres. He has spent time and money in improving his property and has a valuable farm. In addition to crop raising, Mr. Grehl sells the milk from fifteen cows, raises stock for his own use and feeds about twenty-five head of hogs yearly. In 1892 he married Mary Wesseler, who died April 10, 1918, mourned by all who knew her. She is survived by their four children, namely: Albert, Joseph, Robert, William. Mr. Grehl and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church, attending services at West Chester. In politics he is a Republican but he has never accepted any public office except membership on the Pisgah Special school board, of which he is president.

Henry B. Grevey. One of the public-spirited citizens of Hamilton, who for years, has filled public positions here and given honest, trustworthy service, is Henry B. Grevey, who has been city safety director ever since first appointed in 1918. He was born at Hamilton, Ohio, son of Bernard and Minnie (Kettman) Grevey, the latter of whom still lives in this, her native city. The father was born in Germany and followed the trade of a cabinet maker until his death. Henry B. is the only son in the family but he has three sisters, namely: Carrie, who is the wife of George Johnson, foreman of the Mosler Safe company, and councilman of the second ward; Mamie, who is the wife of Arthur Roden, superintendent of the Mosler Safe company; and Clara, who is the wife of Charles Segmiller, machinist, of Dayton. Henry B. Grevey obtained his early education in St. Joseph's parochial school. His first work was herding cattle, but he learned the machinist trade before he was well out of boyhood, and after he completed his apprenticeship with the Niles Tool company, he worked for eight years as a machinist, then became a representative of the Cincinnati Brewing company, continuing with that organization for fifteen years. In politics a Democrat, he has always taken a hearty interest in public questions and has been prominent in local affairs. For twenty-two years he had charge of Precinct D, second ward, and in 1903, was elected councilman-at-large and served in that capacity for two years. In 1905, he was elected councilman from the second ward and served two years, and from 1908 to 1909 was clerk of the city council; and from 1913 to 1918, was chief deputy supervisor and inspector of

elections. In him the progressive city of Hamilton found a trained official for the very responsible office of city safety director, and Mr. Grevey has full charge of this branch of the city government. In 1899 he married Jennie, daughter of James and Mary Johnson, and they have four sons and one daughter, namely: Gilbert, Clyde, Carl, Harry and Ruth, all the children being well educated. The entire family belongs to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church. During the late war Mr. Grevey served as chairman of the second ward board in the bond drives. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Crescent Aid society, the Eagles and the Mutual Monkeys.

Wilmer E. Griffith, M. D.—Throughout his life Dr. Wilmer E. Griffith of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, has been known for his enterprise, aggressiveness and determination to make himself a potent force in movements in which he was aware that his services would be of value. He has always believed that the man who is able to accomplish something for his fellow-man as well as himself is the true type of useful citizen. Accordingly, it was not surprising to his numerous friends to learn that he was the first physician from Hamilton to enter the service of the United States government for medical work in connection with soldier training camps in the recent world conflict. The record he made while engaged in this activity was one of which he might well feel proud and as evidence of the value of his services in this connection it might be stated that he was accorded the honor of a promotion from first lieutenant to a captaincy. The same discriminating care and adherence to the recognized rules of practice that characterized his activities as a physician in Hamilton were given the greatest latitude during the period that he was engaged in war work. It is not amiss to state that his achievements while occupied with the exacting duties of a physician connected with a training camp brought credit not only to himself, but to the medical profession in general. Born in West Brownsville, Pa., July 20, 1868, he was educated in the public schools of that place, later attending the Carleton academy where for two years he pursued the preparatory course which admitted him to Carleton college. After four years of study at this institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Sciences. He then became a student at George Washington university, Washington, D. C., where he was graduated in medicine in 1900. After leaving school he practised his profession in West Brownsville, Pa., until 1910, when he decided to cast his fortune further west and located in Hamilton. This step proved to be a most fortunate one, as he met with success from the start in his new location. Being of pleasing personality and a man who was always prepared to put his shoulder to the wheel in promoting the best interests of his town he early in his career cultivated a wide and desirable acquantance in Hamilton. It was in August, 1917, that he decided that he could do the best work for his country in the Medical Corps, U. S. Army, and he accordingly entered the service of his country at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, where he remained three months. Upon completion of this assignment he was promoted to a captaincy. He was then assigned

to the base hospital at Camp Custer, Mich., remaining there until August 2, 1918, when he was assigned to the 10th Infantry as regimental surgeon for a short time. From there he went to the 77th Infantry and received his honorable discharge December 6, 1918. He was united in marriage December 16, 1909, to Miss Rebecca Bell and to them one child was born, Oliver Clark. By a former marriage two children were born, Wilma Clare and Llewellyn Oscar. He is a member of the Butler County, the Union District Medical societies and American Medical association, having been president for the former organization one year and secretary-treasurer four years. Although he has never been active in politics he is identified with the Republican party and is a Thirty-second degree Mason.

William J. Griffiths—This sterling citizen of Middletown, where he is identified with the American Rolling mill, was born at Brady Bend, Armstrong county, Pa., October 26, 1870, a son of John and Mary (Morgan) Griffiths, the former a native of Wales and the latter of Pennsylvania. John Griffiths came to the United States as a lad of six years, and when he had attained young manhood became connected with the Great Western Iron works at Brady Bend, Pa. He was thus employed when the Civil war came on, and enlisted in the 104th Pennsylvania Volunteers, known as the White Horse Infantry. At the expiration of his term of service, he reenlisted, this time as a member of Company A, 107th regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the struggle, making an excellent record for bravery and fidelity to duty. Under General Reynolds, his regiment was among the first troops in the field at the battle of Gettysburg, where his command lost its leader. His military career closed, Mr. Griffiths returned to his home community, where he resumed work at his trade, and so continued until his death in 1883. The loss of his father when he was but thirteen years of age cut short the educational training of William J. Griffiths, who at that time started to work as a newsboy in his home town. Later he was attracted to railroad life and for seven years was employed in construction work on the Pennsylvania railroad. Next, he entered the sheet mills at Apollo, Pa., whence he went to Buffalo, N. Y., and in 1911 came to Middletown, where he entered the service of the American Rolling mill, with which he has since been identified as a sheet roller. He has gained and held the full confidence of his employers through faithful and skilled service and conscientious application to the duties of his position. Mr. Griffiths was married to Maude, daughter of Reuben and Sarah (Jackson) Kuhns, who had two sisters, Madge and Myrtle, the latter of whom married Will Shane of Apollo, Pa. Laverne, one of the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, died April 14, 1907; Hazel, the other daughter, is attending high school. Both the grandfather and father of Mrs. Griffiths served as soldiers during the war between the North and the South. During the period that the United States was a participant in the great war in Europe, Mr. Griffiths was very actively engaged in behalf of the various movements connected with war relief. He also was a champion of the dry movement which re-

sulted in the adoption of Prohibition, and has been one of the influential members in the Association of Steel workers, having been delegate to five conventions of that body as a representative of Miami Valley lodge. Fraternally he is a Knight Templar Mason and past chancellor of his lodge in the Knight of Pythias. In his religious views he is a Methodist and his liberal idea on political questions have led him to acknowledge no party allegiance. Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths and their daughter live in a pleasant home on Stanley avenue.

Wayman C. Grimes—Among the young men of Middletown who were called to the colors of their country when the United States threw the force of its fresh young manhood into the terrible struggle raging overseas, was Wayman C. Grimes. Still little more than a lad when the call came, he did a man's part with the hundreds of thousands of others depended upon to crush militarism, and on his safe return to his native land again resumed the duties of peace as an employee of the American Rolling mill. Mr. Grimes is a son of Emmett and Cora (Harry) Grimes, natives of Lexington, Ky., the former born February 6, 1871, and the latter October 7, 1875. The parents were married in Kentucky, July 19, 1889, and are now residents of Middletown, where Emmet Grimes occupies the position of shearman at the American Rolling mill. They have been the parents of six children: Wayman C.; Verna, who is the wife of Robert Quinn; Alma, who is deceased; George, a resident of Middletown; one who died in infancy; and Vella, who is still attending school. Wayman C. Grimes received a public school education, and when he laid aside his studies secured a position with the American Rolling Mill company. He was there employed when the United States entered the World war, and March 29, 1918, went to Camp Sherman, where he was attached to Company L, 332nd regiment, 83d division. With this division he went to New Jersey, May 25, 1918, and June 6, 1918, sailed for overseas, going first to England and later to Le Havre, France. From that point of disembarkation he was sent with his regiment to Genoa, Italy, and participated in the battle of Vittoris Veneto. After seeing much active service he returned to the United States, arriving April 3, 1919, and immediately upon his return to Middletown resumed his duties at his old position at the American Rolling Mill company's plant. He is accounted a valuable man by his employers, a steady, skilled and energetic worker, and among his fellows is extremely popular. He votes the Democratic ticket, and is a faithful member of the Christian church.

Paul M. Grollmus—The younger generation of the agricultural element of Butler county is well represented in Wayne township by Paul M. Grollmus, who is now carrying on successful and extensive operations on what is known as the Nathan Jacoby place, situated north of Seven Mile. Mr. Grollmus' activities consist of farming and stock raising, in both of which departments he has met with the well-merited success that is the result of industry and well-directed management. He was born at Detroit, Mich., July 14, 1883, a son of William and Mary (Rice) Grollmus, natives of Germany. The

parents of Mr. Grollmus came to the United States as young people and met and were married at Detroit, where the father, a lock setter by trade, worked for several years for the Pullman Car company. In 1890 William Grollmus brought his family to East Hamilton, Ohio, where he built a grocery store at No. 2, Harmon avenue, which he conducted for seven years. Selling his interests therein, April 16, 1897, he bought a farm one mile north of Seven Mile, on the old Trace road, a tract of fifty-two acres, on which he made numerous improvements and on which he continued farming until his death, in 1914, at the age of fifty-six years. His wife had preceded him in death one year before, when she was forty-eight years of age. They were faithful members of St. John's church, at East Hamilton, and the parents of two children: Paul M., and Annie, who married Anderson Rudisel, and owns and lives on the old family place. Paul M. Grollmus attended the public schools of Detroit, Mich., and East Hamilton, Ohio, and remained with his father until the elder man's death, when he bought his present property. On this 150-acre property he built, in 1918, a fine barn, 40x80 feet, with a cement floor, which has accomodations for twenty-five head of stock and a loft capable of holding fifty tons of hay and feed. He has made numerous other improvements, including the installation of a Delco lighting system for his buildings, and has made this one of the model farms of Wayne township. In addition to engaging in general farming, he raises Shorthorn cattle and Draft horses, and, owing to his uninterrupted industry and the careful manner in which he directs his operations, his work has proved uniformly successful and productive of good results. Mr. Grollmus is a popular member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Seven Mile, and he and Mrs. Grollmus belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. As a voter he is independent, and has found no time to engage in politics, save as showing a public-spirited citizen's interest in the welfare and advancement, as well as good government, of his community. June 30, 1908, Mr. Grollmus was united in marriage with Luella Chapin, of West Chester, Ohio, a daughter of William and Kate (Long) Chapin, the former of Somerville and the latter of West Chester, Ohio. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Grollmus, namely: William, Carl, Helen and Hazel, all at home.

Thomas M. Grubbs—A well-known and popular employee of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, with which he is identified in the capacity of heater, was born at Bolivar, Pa., a son of William and Mary Grubbs, the latter a woman of seventy-two years of age, hale and hearty and an affectionate mother, lives on the old home place in Bolivar, Pa., and once a year visits her children in their respective homes, where she finds a hearty welcome. His grandfather was an early settler of Pennsylvania, with his three sons, William, Silas and Kearnel, the latter two of whom met soldiers' deaths during the war between the North and the South. The land that was taken up by the grandfather as a claim was handed down by him to his son William, who died thereon in 1908, and this property is still the home of the mother. There was a large family of children, including: Alice, who is Mrs. Charles Welshons,

of Pennsylvania; Catherine, Mrs. George Foust; Thomas M.; Harry, who died at Pittsburg, Pa., in 1903, of appendicitis; John, of Wilkes Barre, Pa.; James and Charles, of Pittsburg, Pa.; and Frank, Edward and Elmer, of Steubenville, Ohio. Thomas M. Grubbs received his education in the public schools of Bolivar, and as a youth became connected with the steel industry. In 1911 he came from Zanesville, Ohio, to Middletown, to enter the plant of the American Rolling mill and here has been located ever since. He is popular with his fellow-workmen at the plant, where he has earned the reputation of being a skilled and faithful workman, and as a citizen and a neighbor is held in high esteem. In 1914 he built a beautiful home on Logan avenue, where he has the companionship of an estimable wife and bright and interesting children. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masons, while his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. August 1, 1906, Mr. Grubbs was married at Zanesville, Ohio, to Edna, daughter of Albert and Sadie (McGowan) McIlvaine, of that city, and a sister of Albert, of Warren, Ohio, who is Mrs. William McClellan, of Cincinnati; and Orpha, who is Mrs. William Barnes of Sonora, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Grubbs there have come three children: William Harold, born at Zanesville, December 9, 1908; Orpha V., born at Middletown, October 24, 1914; and James Richard, born at Middletown, May 29, 1916. Mrs. Grubb's father, who was for years an employee of the Brown Manufacturing company of Zanesville, Ohio, moved to a farm in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1895, was killed in 1896 by a falling tree. The mother is still living and makes her home mostly with her daughter, Mrs. Grubbs.

Joseph T. Guillaume, a native of Butler county and long actively identified with its interests, was born in Madisonville, Hamilton county, Ohio, September 15, 1857, son of Henry and Mary (Sobley) Guillaume, both of whom were born in Ste. Marie, Belgium, near the French border. They were married in Belgium, where he followed the trade of a stonecutter. They came to this country and first settled near New Albany, Ind., where his brothers had previously located with his parents. The brothers were Joseph and Frank. The parents later moved to the John A. Jones place at Madisonville, Hamilton county, thence to Tylersville, Butler county. Mr. Guillaume was a high-class mechanic, and prior to coming to this country had been employed on many of the great structures in Paris, France. For a number of years he worked as a stone mason at Tylersville and both he and his wife died there and were buried in West Chester cemetery, Butler county. Their children were, John B., who lives at Urbana, Ohio; Joseph T., our subject, lives at Flockton, Ohio. Joseph T. Guillaume received his education in the Tylersville schools, after leaving which he worked at the trade of a stone mason, which he had acquired through work and with instructions from his father. He continued in this calling for a number of years as contractor in the erection and construction of bridges and the construction of public works generally. He retired from general contract work in 1913, but at different times has served as inspector of concrete work done for the state, and is at the present time inspector of

the work done on the Dixie Highway. About twenty-five years ago Mr. Guillaume purchased a farm of 122 acres, located in Fairfield township, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and is now being farmed by his son, Joseph, jr. Mr. Guillaume was married February 16, 1881, to Ella Vail, of Hylersville. To this union two children were born: Charles and Cary. Charles married Cornelia Gilmore, has a daughter, Emma Jane. Cary died at the age of nine months. Mr. Guillaume was married (secondly) to Jennie Vail, sister of his first wife, and to this union two children were born: Joseph and Stanley. Joseph married Nellie Gift, and have a son, James; Stanley married Henrietta Brinkman. Mr. Guillaume has always taken an active part in public affairs and has been a positive factor in the development and growth of the county of his nativity. For nine years he served as trustee of Union township, and for ten years he filled the same office in Fairfield township. Mr. Guillaume belongs to the Elks and Odd Fellows and is a Democrat.

Mrs. Byron Hadley. Among the families of Middletown, and one that became well and favorably known because of the worthy support of all beneficial measures and for the setting of a high standard of living and honorable citizenship, was that of Hadley. Byron Hadley, the head of this family, and son of Alfred V. and Rachael (Kennedy) Hadley, was for a number of years principal machine-tender at the Gardner-Harvey Paper company's plant at Middletown, but at the present time resides at Lockport, N. Y., where he is similarly employed. He was married June 2, 1888, to Agnes L., daughter of Philip and Maria Beam, native Americans, who for some years resided in the locality of New York City, but later moved to Albany, N. Y. Mrs. Hadley was educated in the public schools of the Empire state, and married her husband at Hoboken, N. J., and they became the parents of a large family, and while residents of Middletown settled in a pretty and comfortable home on North street. Mrs. Hadley is a woman of superior intelligence and intellectuality, and during her residence at Middletown gathered about her a wide circle of friends. Her children were: Ethel May, who is deceased; Walter Byron, of Middletown, who married Hazel Schueller; Arthur Jefferson, of Middletown, who married Edith Gudgeon; Grace and Milton, who are deceased; an infant who died at birth; Raymond Milton; Norman Fischer; Alfred Dillon; Harry Ellsworth, and Theodore Roosevelt. Norman Fischer Hadley was one of the brave young soldiers from Middletown who went to France and won fame with the American Expeditionary Forces. He went to France with the Second Replacement Overseas Battalion, United States Marine Corps, March 13, 1918, having previous to that time been stationed for three months at Paris Island. From his disembarkation point, Brest, he went to Coblenz, and was then transferred to the 5th regiment and sent to the front, at Verdun. After thirteen days of fighting, he was wounded while serving on a patrol, by a high explosive shell, and for three months lay temporarily blinded in a hospital. When again fit for service he rejoined his unit in time to take part in the famous engagement of Chateau

Thierry, where he was shell-shocked and again sent to the hospital for three months. July 13, 1918, as a casual, he received his honorable discharge and returned to his home. In a curious manner, the number "13," which the superstitious regard with awe, figured in this brave young soldier's service. He arrived at Paris December 13; February 13, shot for a record; March 13 shipped for France; took thirteen days to cross the ocean; was in France thirteen days before he went to the front; the thirteenth day at the front was wounded; was on a stretcher numbered 13 when taken to the hospital; was discharged July 13; October 13 received word to leave for the United States; and was one of a party of thirteen Marines on board the ship which thirteen days later arrived at Hoboken. There was also a 13 included in his rifle number. Mr. Hadley has taken up the study of commercial art, which he intends to follow as a vocation when he actively takes up the duties and responsibilities of civil life.

John Hafner. Of the younger generation of agriculturists of Butler county, prominence is deservedly accorded to John Hafner, the greater part of whose career has been devoted to a study of practical farming, and who is now superintendent of operations on the farm of Mrs. Louis Mock, in Madison township. He comes of the second generation of his family to reflect credit upon this part of the state, as his father was for many years one of the representative men of this locality. Mr. Hafner was born in Montgomery county, O., in 1877, a son of Roman and Anna (Fabing) Hafner, natives of Baden, Germany. His father was a young man, ambitious and enterprising, when he emigrated to the United States, without friends or means, but filled with a determination to make a success of his life. Locating first at Bethany, he secured employment by the month from John Salzman and John Mart, and while residing there was married, a step which caused him to seek a home and property of his own. He accordingly came to Madison township, Butler county, where for several years he lived on the Jack Hoffman farm, then going to Montgomery county, where he made his home for nine years. Upon his return to Madison township, in May, 1887, he bought a farm of eighty acres in section 35, and was engaged in making extensive improvements when suddenly called by death, August 10, 1907, at the age of sixty-eight years, six months and ten days. He was a man of worth and stability, who was highly respected in his community, and whose death was sincerely mourned. He and Mrs. Hafner were consistent members of the Catholic church at Middletown, and the parents of five children: a daughter who died young; John; Lizzie, who married Walter Cass and lives on the old home place in Madison township; Annie, who married Anthony Lewing, of Middletown; and Katie, who married Ben Nulist, of Madison county. John Hafner was educated in the home schools and had just attained his majority when he entered upon his independent career. His youth had been one characterized by close application to the work of the home farm, as he had been but fourteen years of age when his mother died, February 17, 1891, and he had little opportunity, as the only son, to do anything aside from

JOHN HAFNER

work, or to enjoy the recreations that youth considers its prerogative. For one year after starting upon his own career, Mr. Hafner worked out by the month, and then returned to the homestead, where he remained until his father's death, this being followed by one year's work for William Hollenbaugh and a like period for Frank Michaels. At that time he was selected by Mrs. Louis Mock, of Madison township, as superintendent of operations on her farm in section 9. During the ten years that he has been thus employed, Mr. Hafner has succeeded in developing the property in many ways and adding to its value through improvements and the installment of up-to-date features. In addition to carrying on a general farming business, he deals quite extensively in stock and fertilizer, and is regarded as an expert, thorough and energetic farmer and a man of unblemished character in business dealings as well as in personal life. He has always been too busily occupied with his agricultural activities to give much thought to public affairs, as far as his own candidacy for office might be considered, but as a public-spirited man, realizing the benefit of progress to the community as well as to the individual, he has given his moral and material support to various movements which have promised to benefit the locality and its people. Personally he possesses qualities that are likable and attractive, and as a result among a wide circle of acquaintances he can boast of many warm and sincere friends.

Ellsworth Hagan was born near Seven Mile, Ohio, August 17, 1874. His father, George Hagan, born in Butler county and his mother, Elizabeth (Clark) Hagan, born in Hamilton county, are now deceased, having passed the latter end of their lives on a farm near Seven Mile. To this union were born Clifton, of Hamilton; Newton; Ellsworth and Nannie. Ellsworth Hagan was educated in the public schools of Seven Mile; immediately after leaving school he entered upon a career of farming, an industry which he has followed with an unusual degree of success to the present time. Two years after his marriage, September 25, 1901, to Emma K. Knouse, daughter of Peter and Catherine (Behl) Knouse, he moved on to a farm of 180 acres in Ross township, which he has improved and brought to such a high degree of cultivation through scientific crop rotation and management that its equal is rarely to be met with even in this most fertile section of the United States. Mrs. Hagan's parens were natives of Germany, but realizing the greater opportunities for success in life in the new world they early came to this country, locating in Morgan township, Butler county. To them were born the following children: Peter, of Morgan township; Louise, of Chicago; George, deceased; Edward, of Arizona; Frank, of Montana; William, of Hamilton; Kathran, now Mrs. Bowman,of Ross township; Emma; Anna, now Mrs. Eschenbrenner, also of Ross township; Mary, and one child who died in infancy. Mr. Hagan has always voted the Democratic ticket, but has never been induced to relinquish private life for public office, although he has been very prominent in war activities of his community. To him and his wife have been born two children: Howard, aged fourteen, and Floyd, aged nine.

John B. Halderman, the proprietor of the old Kemp property in Madison township and a farmer and citizen of substantial standing, still in the prime of a useful life, is a native of Preble county, born June 4, 1847, a son of James and Hannah (Fall) Halderman, The first of this family to come to Ohio was the grandfather of John B. Halderman, Christian Halderman, who migrated at an early day from his native state of Pennsylvania to Preble county, when the latter community was still much of a wilderness, with a great deal of wild game. During the early days the grandfather did a great deal of teaming to Cincinnati, and became favorably known among the early settlers of his vicinity as a man of sterling character and strict integrity. He was of the Dunkard faith and a man who lived up to his religion and the dictates of his conscience. His son, James Halderman, was born near Gratis, Preble county, and grew up on his father's farm, remaining under the home roof until his marriage to Hannah Fall, of the same county, daughter of Benjamin Fall. Mr. Fall was a Southerner and a slave owner, and came to Ohio with his wife, who had been a Miss Leslie, to Preble county where he secured a large tract of land, a good deal of which he cleared. They became well known in their new community, and died there as highly respected people and as faithful members of the Baptist church. James Halderman took up farming after his marriage near Fairhaven, but subsequently moved to Madison township, and settled on a farm on which Mrs. Wilson now lives. He passed the rest of his life on this farm, and died at the age of seventy-seven years. In politics he was a Democrat, and in his community he had universal respect and confidence. He and Mrs. Halderman, who died at the age of seventy-four years, had three children: Joseph, whose health suffered greatly by reason of his three years of service in the Civil war, but who spent many years in farming in Madison township, Butler county, and finally went to Cuba, Mo., where he died July 28, 1918, he married a Miss Ferguson; John B., and Mrs. Wilson. John B. Halderman was educated in the home schools and resided with his parents until reaching the age of twenty-one years. When he left the homestead he established a home of his own by his marriage with Eliza Jane Hursh, who was born in Madison township, a daughter of Henry and Susanna (Snyder) Hursh, natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers of Madison township, where they cleared a farm and made a home. There were four children in the Hursh family; Mrs. Halderman; John, of Middletown; Samuel, of Delphos, and Catherine, the wife of Ezra Hinkle, also of Middletown. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Halderman: Florence, the wife of E. Craig, a contractor of Overpeck, with two children, Roy, now first lieutenant in the United States Regular Army at Fort Bliss, and Myrtice, the wife of Emmett Meehan, of Middletown; Edward E., who died April 18, 1898; Alfred, formerly a farmer and paper mill worker at Middletown, and now engaged in government work at Elyria, married Agnes Stoddard and has four children: Harold, Hilda, Mildred and Florence; and Elbert, who attended the West Middletown schools, later took a commercial course in civil engineering, engaged for a

RESIDENCE OF JOHN B. HALDERMAN

time in the moulding business and is now a large farmer near Jacksonboro, married Mamie Yost, and has three children: Jane, John Edward and Charles Joseph. After his marriage, Mr. Halderman located near the old home place, and for twenty-eight years was engaged in renting land. In 1896, however, he became a proprietor, when he moved to his present property, known as the old Kemp place. When he took over this property it was greatly run down, through poor management and much neglect, and it was only after strenuous work that the property was placed in presentable and profitable condition. Mr. Halderman remodeled and renovated the house, built a new home and made numerous other attractive and valuable improvements, with the result that he is now the owner of a fine country place. He has always been a general farmer, and in former years raised Jersey cattle, but now makes a specialty of Holstein cattle, mixed hogs and draft horses. He takes a good deal of interest in current public affairs in his locality, and has served very efficiently in the past in the capacity of township trustee. His political support is given to the Democratic party. For many years Mr. Halderman has been a member of the board of directors of the Miltonville Cemetery association and other connections testify to the fact that he is a public-spirited man and a supporter of religion, education and good citizenship. December 25, 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Halderman celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary, at which were present three of their children, several grandchildren and one great-grandchild as well as the many friends whom they have made during their residence in this community.

Edward Haller, son of Mathias and Selimina (Jacobs) Haller, was born near Darrtown, Butler county, Ohio, September 4th, 1880. His father was of German, his mother of English ancestry. The father, who still lives, was a veteran of the Civil war, having served four years; the mother died March 11, 1897. He had seven brothers and sisters: Lewis, now in Middletown, Ohio; Joseph, in Dayton, Ohio; Elizabeth, Mrs. Adah Sohn; Samuel, in Ohio; Charles, in Dayton; Jacob, deceased; Jonas, in Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. Haller was married to Bertha Maud Dye, daughter of William and Sarah (Thomas) Dye, who came from Campbell, Ky., to Middletown, where they still reside. Mrs. Haller had six brothers and sisters: Walter, Edgar Lewis, deceased; James Luther, Sara Pearl, Mrs. Chester Jones; Charles; and Stella, Mrs. Martin Kohler. Mr. and Mrs. Haller are the parents of four bright children, Paul, Eleanor, Zola and Thurman, in whom they take much delight and of whom they are justly proud. For a number of years they lived in Hamilton and Miamisburg, Ohio, and came to Middletown in 1911, when Mr. Haller became associated with the American Rolling Mill Company in the capacity of heater. Mr. Haller owns a splendid home on Yankee road which he finds a haven of rest on completion of a day of arduous toil. He is a member of the St. Paul church, and politically a Progressive.

James Washington Halsey. A resident of Middletown since 1910, James Washington Halsey has so conformed to the ideals of reliability, integrity and good citizenship as to have won and

held the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He belongs to the vast army of workers who form the integral parts of the human machinery operating the plant of the Middletown Rolling Mill, where his position is that of crate maker and his status that of a thoroughly trustworthy, steady and capable mechanic. Mr. Halsey was born in Nicholas county, Ky., December 6, 1864, a son of Harvey Thomas and Nancy Ann (Williams) Halsey. His father, born in Virginia, January 16, 1840, was still a youth when he removed to Kentucky, and is still living and following farming, while his mother died in Wolfe county, December 12, 1907. James W. Halsey received a common school education in his native state, where he remained until 1910. In that year he came to Middletown, and for the past nine years has been employed as a crate maker at the plant of the American Rolling Mill, where he has numerous friends. A man of thrifty habits, he has accumulated property, and since coming to Middletown has built a comfortable modern home located on Lefferson street. He is known as a man of the strictest honesty and integrity, a strong temperance advocate and a devout member of the Nazarene church. He is married and has reared a large family of children, and his son, Kelly O., served with the American Expeditionary Forces on the battlefields of Aisne, Marne, St. Mihiel and Argonne.

John W. Halsey, a prosperous citizen and successful business man of Middletown, son of Harvey Thomas and Nancy (Williams) Halsey, was born in Wolfe county, Ky., March 13, 1874. He was educated in the public schools of his home town and attended Berea college one term. Upon leaving school, he engaged in lumber work, then made a trip to Alaska, subsequently arriving in the state of Washington where he remained six years. His next change was to Middletown, Ohio, where he was married to Edith Chevault, daughter of Harvey Chevault. To this union were born two children: Amiel Raymond and Edward. Mrs. Halsey's father is deceased and the mother resides in Pike Ridge, Ky. Mr. Halsey's father is still living, the mother dying December 25, 1906. Shortly after he arrived in Middletown, Mr. Halsey started a grocery business on a comparatively small scale, but by reason of his correct methods, unfailing courtesy and untiring energy, the venture has assumed large proportions and continues to grow. Mr. Halsey has purchased and now owns several very valuable properties. His rating among the successful business men of Middletown is high. Mr. Halsey is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and is liberal in his political views.

Fred M. Hammerle. There is no one man connected with the official life of Butler county to whom the people are indebted in greater degree for practical and permanent improvements than to Fred Hammerle, county surveyor since 1913 and for several years previous identified with civic affairs in minor capacities. His earnestness, honesty and unassuming ability have retained him in office by election through several changes of administration. The final result of his faithful and progressive service is not only to firmly establish him in the confidence of the local public, but to

give him a national standing on all matters connected with the work of public improvements along the lines of bridge and road building. Mr. Hammerle was born at Hamilton, October 27, 1878, a son of Frank and Catherine (Meyer) Hammerle, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Hamilton, she being the daughter of a Swiss shoemaker. Frank Hammerle followed gunsmithing throughout the active years of a long and honorable life, having a store at Main and C streets, and also did United States Government work during the Civil war. He still survives, at an advanced age, and on occasions still does odd jobs at his trade. He was one of the substantial and influential men of his day, and was trustee of St. Clair township for several years and a member of the school board for twenty years. Mrs. Hammerle also survives and like her husband is well preserved in body and mind. They were the parents of four children: Fred; Henry, of Hamilton, who married Grace Sheely; Frank, also of this city, who married Etta Brown; and Louise, of Hamilton, the widow of the late Allison Grover. Educated in the public schools of Hamilton, Mr. Hammerle was first employed in the United States Geological Survey for three years, a position in which he traveled to various parts of the United States. With this experience, he returned to Hamilton, where in 1910 he became assistant city engineer, and three years later, in 1913, was elected surveyor of Butler county, a position to which he has been elected four times. In this capacity, Mr. Hammerle has built the river bridges, costing over $1,000,000, one of these, at Middletown being the longest concrete bridge in the state, being 1706 feet in length. He also built the bridge at Woodsdale and two bridges at Hamilton, as well as twenty-three miles of brick roads, all this in addition to the general work of his department. His service to the county has been of inestimable value, and his official record is one that is creditable to himself, his office and the community which he serves. Mr. Hammerle is a valued member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protect Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Mutual Monkeys. He was united in marriage in June, 1912, at Hamilton, to Jane, daughter of William and Hannah (Welsh) Cline, farming people of the Hamilton community of Butler county. To this union there has come one child: Betty Kate, who was born May 24, 1913. The pleasant family home is located at No. 225 Main street. Mrs. Hammerle is a faithful member of St. Mary's Catholic church.

Walter D. Hancock, M. D. It has been truthfully said that the professional man, particularly the physician, who chooses to follow his profession in the community in which he was born and reared, especially when the population of his town is comparatively small, sincerely believes that he commands the fullest confidence of the townsfolk. He realizes that unless he is of unblemished character his prospects for developing a profitable practice are not rosy, regardless of his ability. It was because of his faith in the loyalty of his neighbors and townspeople in general that Walter D. Hancock decided to practise medicine in Millville, Ross township,

Butler county, Ohio, after he had been awarded his college degrees. Fortified with a most thorough training in both the practical and theoretical phases of medicine he came back to the village of his birth to minister to the physical ills and ailments of his people with the knowledge that he was welcome among them as a practising physician with the same cordiality that he was as an unobtrusive young man in the days before he had been honored by the foremost colleges with degrees for learning. Today Doctor Hancock is one of the foremost physicians and surgeons of that section of the state and those who have been his intimates for years (and it might be stated that his bosom friends are legion) manifest almost as much pride in the commanding position which he has attained in his profession as though they themselves had won the laurels. It was on May 25, 1847, that he first saw the light of day in Stillwell, now known as McGonigle, being the eldest son of Alfred and Emeline (DeCamp) Hancock. There were two other children, Joel of Sheridan, Ind., and James of Kendallville, Ind. Doctor Hancock was educated in the public schools of Millville and then attended Miami university. His purpose was to study medicine and he realized that the doctor who first has a solid foundation for an education is far better prepared to pursue the medical course than the student so unfortunate as not to first have the advantages of a university education. It was in 1869 that he received his degree, A. B., from Miami and immediately entered the Miami Medical college in Cincinnati. As an indication of his perseverance and indomitable spirit he was determined to obtain the most thorough instruction possible in the mysteries of medicine and accordingly undertook a post-graduate course at the University of Vienna after his graduation from Cincinnati college. Incidentally, it might be stated that during his years in college Doctor Hancock was recognized as an apt student whose one purpose was to apply himself diligently and conscientiously at all times. Thus equipped he was admirably qualified to "hang out his shingle" in Millville. The success that has attended the practice of his profession at this place has been even beyond his fondest expectations. He was united in marriage in 1876 to Miss Sally Oliver, only daughter of John and Ellen (Cassidy) Oliver. Her father was a native of Flemingsburg, Ky., and her mother was born in Eaton, Ohio. One child was born to Dr. and Mrs. Hancock, Miss Nellie, deceased. Doctor Hancock's father was born in Riley township and was one of the ten sons of Joel and Jane (Lintner) Hancock. Joel was a pioneer of Butler county and was a veteran of the war of 1812. One of his sons, John, served in the Civil war. Emeline DeCamp was a daughter of Walter and Sally (Bird) DeCamp. Walter DeCamp was a son of Ezekiel and Mary (Baker) DeCamp, who came from Westfield, N. J. Her paternal ancestor was Capt. John Baker who came from England in 1660 and was chief military officer by appointment in 1665 at Albany. Daniel Baker, a descendant, was a Revolutionary soldier. He was the great-great-grandfather of Ezekiel DeCamp, who was born in New Jersey and came overland to Riley township. Ezekiel DeCamp met Nicholas Longworth near

Cincinnati and the latter endeavored to persuade him to settle in that vicinity. Mr. Longworth subsequently became very wealthy from his land and other holdings in that section. Mr. DeCamp, however, had great faith in the future of Butler county and took up his abode there. In 1812 the other members of the family joined him in Butler county, they being Moses DeCamp, aged seventy-seven years, Sarah, sixty-five, and Ezekiel, thirty-three, the latter having a wife and ten children. Doctor Hancock, it may thus be seen, comes from pioneer American stock who had much to do with moulding the future of the country's greatness. Aside from medicine Doctor Hancock is active in the Presbyterian church, is a Mason and a Democrat in politics. He is also a member of the Medical Reserve Corps and was active in recent World war movements.

William Thomas Hancock. In the prosperous agricultural sections of the Miami valley it is often found that the vocations of farming and banking go hand in hand, numerous individuals, after years of tilling the soil, turning their ability to good account which has been developed through extended transactions with their fellowmen. Among the citizens of Somerville, is one who for many years was engaged in farming, but who is now interested principally in his duties as president of the Somerville National bank. He has also been prominent in the civic life of the community, and for four years served as mayor of his city. He was also engaged for thirty years as an undertaker. Mr. Hancock was born on a farm located in Butler county, one mile directly east of section 2, Milford township, June 30, 1850, a son of Rev. William and Elisabeth (James) Hancock. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Hancock was Elisha Hancock, of New Jersey, who came to Ohio as early as 1804 or 1805 and secured wild government land in Preble county. There he developed a valuable and productive farm in Somers township, upon which he resided and carried on operations for a number of years, but eventually went to Richmond, Ind., where he died at the advanced age of ninety-one years, while his widow lived to be nearly 100 years old lacking 27 days. They were of the Quaker faith, Mrs. Hancock having a birthright in the Society of Friends and being a remarkable woman in many ways. She followed the business of coatmaking in the early days to assist her husband in gaining success, and when she had reached the age of ninety-six years wrote an interesting, full and accurate account of the Rev. Elias Hicks, one of the early ministers of the Miami valley. There were four children in the family: Elizabeth, who married Samuel Reddick and resided near Seven Mile; Mary, who married Benjamin Bell and lived at Camden; Isaac, who died unmarried; and Rev. William. Rev. William Hancock was born September 9, 1818, in Preble county, Ohio, was educated in the home schools, and was ordained in young manhood as a preacher of the Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal church. He filled pulpits at various places in Ohio, and in 1837 came to Butler county and settled on the northeast quarter of section 2, Milford township. Later he came to Somerville, where he died in March, 1884, while his wife passed away

in 1883. They were splendid Christian people and widely known and greatly respected in their community. During the days prior to the Civil war, Reverend Hancock was a strong, fearless and unfaltering Abolitionist, his home was a station on the "Underground Railroad," and in direct opposition of the Dred Scott Law. He and his wife were the parents of eleven children, of whom five died young: Elisha Morgan, born January 16, 1842, who fought as a soldier during the Civil war, subsequently lived in Illinois and Ohio, and died at Hamilton in the latter state; John, born April 4, 1844, a carpenter by trade, who also fought as a soldier during the war between the North and the South, married Harriet Brown, and had six children of whom two died young; Mary, who died unmarried at the age of twenty-one years; Isaac, born August 20, 1848, who married Mary Moravy, now deceased, and is engaged in farming west of Camden, Ohio; they had one son, William, who died young; Augusta and Wiley E., who are deceased; and William Thomas. William Thomas Hancock was educated in the home schools and Richmond (Ind.) academy and remained under the parental roof until 1873, in which year he went to Georgia because of ill health and remained in that climate for four years. While there he was engaged in clerking, but on his return to Somerville, Ohio, in 1877, again took up farming and engaged in the undertaking business. He was married September 4, 1884, in Butler county by Reverend Kyle of Seven Mile, to Clara B. Bourne, daughter of Marsh W. and Mary (Hinsy) Bourne, old settlers of Butler county, Ohio, who also lived for a time in Indiana and Kansas, but who died at Somerville. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hancock: Lillian Elizabeth, who married Thomas E. Thompson and resides near Springfield, Ohio; Ollen Dale, who married Roy E. Kissling, telegraph operator at the Pennsylvania Railway station, Somerville, for many years, with two children; and Mary and William Thomas, jr., who reside at home. All of the children are graduates of the Somerville High school, Mary is taking special instruction in music, and William Thomas, jr., was a student for a time at Miami university. After his marriage, Mr. Hancock purchased ninety-two acres of land in Butler county, a part of which is included within the corporate limits of Somerville, a place which has always known him for he has always lived in this vicinity. In the year 1909, he took part in the founding of the National Bank of Somerville, of which he has since been president. A man of the strictest integrity in all business matters, he has also been active and public-spirited in public affairs and his private life has been one of probity and conscientious performance of responsibilities. As a fraternalist, he belongs to the Chapter of the Knights of Pythias at Somerville, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Masonic Blue Lodge and Chapter; the Commandery at Hamilton, and the Consistory at Dayton, where he belongs to the thirty-second degree, as well as Syrian Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Cincinnati. He is a member of the Baptist church, while his wife and children belong to the Methodist Episcopal faith. Until the year 1871 Mr. Hancock was a Republi-

can, but in that year transferred his allegiance to the Prohibition party, and ever since that time has been a leader in his community in assisting the cause of temperance. He has taken a great deal of interest in public affairs, and during the four years that he served Somerville in the capacity of mayor gave this city an excellent administration, characterized by a number of greatly needed reforms.

William H. Hann, one of the best known citizens and foremost farmers of Reily township, Butler county, was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, near New Haven, in 1867. He is the son of Mortimer and Susan (Toph) Hann. Mortimer was born near Harrison, Ohio, and served as a soldier in the Civil war, answering President Lincoln's call to arms after the firing on Fort Sumter. Susan (Toph) Hann, his wife, was also a native of the Buckeye state, having been born near Miami town on the old Toph farm. William H. Hann, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the country schools at Edgewood, and later went west to Arkansas, remaining there for twelve years, where he engaged in the stock business, buying stock in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Texas. He was known as the Arkansas Hog Man, buying thousands of stock hogs. He now owns land, 400 acres, in Arkansas, and also 268 acres in Reily township, Butler county, Ohio. He was married to Mary Burer, daughter of John W. Burer and wife of Symmes Corner. To William H. and Mary (Burer) Hann the following children were born: Anna, Charles, Susan, Agnes, William, Benjamin, Donald and Louis. The family record is also one of patriotic achievement, for in addition to supporting all war work and liberty bond drives at home, two of the girls entered the service of the United States government at Washington, D. C., and a son served the colors in the famous United States Marine Corps. Anna was employed in the War Risk department and Susan in the Treasury department of the United States at the national capital. Anna was formerly a teacher and is a graduate of McGuffey High school, also a student for two terms in the Normal school, Oxford. Charles Hann entered the army at the age of eighteen years. Enlisting in the marines he saw about three years active service in San Domingo. The members of the family are Methodists in their church affiliations and held in the highest esteem by all who know them, being in accord with every movement pertaining to community welfare and social advancement.

Charles Byron Hannah, one of the highly esteemed citizens of Middletown, and a citizen of recognized worth and standing. He has been a resident of this community since 1900, and at present is identified with the American Tobacco company, where his business abilities are highly regarded. Mr. Hannah was born in Bracken county, Ky., April 23, 1857, a son of John W. and Hannah (Miller) Hannah, of Brown county, Ohio. His father was for some years a teacher of vocal and instrumental music at Georgetown, this state. There were seven children in the family: Laura, the wife of C. S. Lloyd, of Middletown; Gussie Louise, the wife of John Morris, of Bracken county, Ky.; Birdie, Biddie and Alfonso, of Middletown; and Nellie, the wife of Frank Grimes; and Charles B. Charles B.

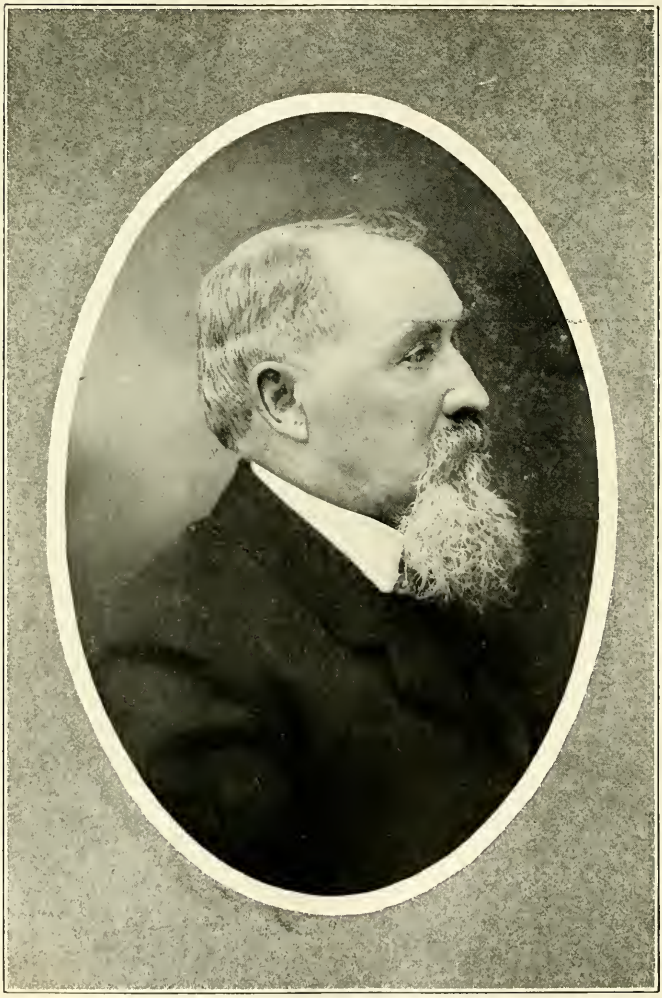
Hannah received a public school education in his native state, where he resided until nineteen years ago, at that time coming to Butler county to become manager of the DuBois Lefferson farm. He remained in that capacity for eight years and then resigned, and for some time has been employed at the factory of the American Tobacco company. Mr. Hannah is a man noted for his honesty and generosity. He has something more than a local reputation as a musician, a talent doubtless inherited from his father, and for fifteen years was leader in a church choir. In politics he is a Democrat. March 4, 1879, at Johnsville, Ky., Mr. Hannah married Miss Rebecca Kinnett, and they became the parents of nine children: Ida Lou, who is now Mrs. A. Grimes, of Middletown; Hannah; Leslie, the wife of Wright Brown, of Perintown, Ohio; John Edgar, of Cincinnati; Lloyd, of Middletown; Verna, the wife of W. Houston, of Cincinnati; and Reynolds, Sylvia Reeves and Elbert Harold, of Middletown. Mrs. Hannah died September 17, 1894, and February 27, 1898, Mr. Hannah married Miss Jane Houston of Kentucky. They reside on the pleasant residence street of Lefferson, where they have their own home and welcome their many friends. The first Mrs. Hannah died when her youngest son and child, Elbert Harold, was but eleven months of age, and he was reared in the home of Mrs. Laura Lloyd. He has become a noted athlete. As a professional basketball player he assisted in the winning of a championship for the organization of which he was a member, and his prowess as a baseball player attracted such attention that he was signed by the Cincinnati Baseball club, the famous Reds, who won the world's baseball championship in 1919. When the war broke out, he entered the United States Army, enlisting March 29, 1918, in Company H, 331st Regiment, 83d Division, and was first sent to Camp Sherman, and then to England and on to France, arriving June 2. He was in active service at Chateau Thierry and St. Mihiel and returned to this country with a corporal's stripes on his sleeves after brave and valiant service.

George R. Hansel. Of the men who represent the farming and stock raising interests of Butler county, one who is eminently worthy of mention in a work pertaining to the careers of honorable citizens of the Miami valley is George R. Hansel. This progressive agriculturist of Milford township has passed his entire life in this part of Ohio, where he has built up and steadily maintained a reputation for stability, integrity and good citizenship. He was born March 30, 1854, at Darrtown, Ohio, a son of Frederick Hansel. The latter was born in Franklin county, Ind., a son of Christopher Hansel, a native of Holland, who in 1811 settled in Franklin county and secured wild land, on which he made a clearing and established a home. Eventually he succeeded in clearing 160 acres, and this property is still in the family name, five generations of the Hansels having resided thereon. Christopher Hansel passed his life as a farmer on this place, and at his death left five children: David Christopher, John, Frederick, Frank and Susan Rosanna. Frederick Hansel received only a limited schooling and as a young man left Indiana and came to Butler county, Ohio, where he met and married Marietta Cone, of New York state, who had come with her parents as a girl

down the Ohio river in a flatboat. The Cones secured land in Butler county and here passed the rest of their lives in tilling the soil. Their children were: Isaac, Lafayette, Sylvester, Asa, Esther and Marietta. After their marriage Frederick Hansel and his wife located in Reily township and lived on different farms until they secured their property north of Darrtown, in 1847. This consisted of 150 acres and it constituted the home place until Mr. Hansel purchased the farm where his son George R. now lives, in section 21, a tract of 154 acres. Mr. Hansel died on this property in 1899, at the age of eighty-three years, while his wife passed away in 1899, aged seventy-five. In early life a Whig, he later joined the Republican party, and he and Mrs. Hansel were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of six children: Esther J., deceased, who was the wife of Robert E. Scott, of Hamilton, and had three children, Russell, Charles and Bertha; Elizabeth, who married George Kramer, of Oxford; Adeline, who married Oren E. Young, of Greenville and had two children, Bessie and Laura; Ursula, who died in 1873, married A. R. Young, of Illinois; George R., of this notice; William C., a millwright of Hamilton, who married May Keck, and has three children, Florence, Frederick and Howard. George R. Hansel was educated in the common schools and at Earlham college, which he attended in 1871 and 1872. Subsequently he went to Lebanon college in 1873, and then returned to the home farm, where he assisted his father until his marriage, March 2, 1881, to Nellie Nichol, of Hanover township, daughter of Joseph W. and Henrietta Nichol, natives of Pennsylvania, and granddaughter of Thomas Nichol, a native of Scotland, who was an early settler of Hanover township. Thomas Nichol married Isabelle McCook, and they became the parents of four children: John, who married Martha Love and had two children, Mary Ann and Elizabeth; Margaret; John and Joseph W. Joseph W. Nichol was born in Hanover township, where he secured 200 acres of land, to which he later added by purchase. He was always a farmer and became a well-known citizen of his community, where he took a good deal of interest in politics and was known as a staunch Republican. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Darrtown, in the faith of which they died respectively in 1895 at the age of seventy-three years, and February 21, 1904, at the age of seventy-five. They had six children, as follows: John Wells, a farmer of the Darrtown community, who married Maria Clements; Nellie, who became Mrs. Hansel; Sarah, who married Lewis Herron, a farmer of the Oxford community; Mary Louise, who married George Coulter, of Hamilton; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the first wife of George Coulter; and George, who married Elizabeth Snyder and is engaged in farming on the old Nichol place. Mrs. Hansel was educated in the Women's college, at Oxford. She and her husband are the parents of two children: Mary W., who died September 20, 1918, as the wife of Frank McVicker of Milford township; and Charles N., who married Essie Shears, farms the old home place and is the father of one son, George W., born March 27, 1919. Charles N. Hansel is a Mason at Oxford and belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Darrtown.

George R. Hansel has resided on the old home place all of his life and has always applied himself to the vocations of farming and stock raising, in which he has achieved success. He is accounted one of the good and useful citizens of his community and has served his locality creditably and conscientiously in several public offices, to which he was elected as a Republican. He and the members of his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Darrtown.

William D. Hardin. Numbered among the citizens of Butler county who are now living practically retired after many years passed in agricultural pursuits, is William D. Hardin, one of the highly esteemed residents of Seven Mile. He comes of sturdy pioneer stock and of Revolutionary ancestry, and the family has lived in the Miami valley for well over a century, its members having been notable factors in the agricultural development of this section of Ohio. Mr. Hardin was born at Collinsville, Butler county, Ohio, in 1846, a son of James and Durinda (Carter) Hardin. His paternal grandfather, also named James Hardin, was born at Philadelphia, and as a youth enlisted in the Patriot army and fought bravely as a privateer on the high seas for four years of the Revolutionary war. He learned the trade of shoemaker, and after his mother had been left a widow with a large family of children, followed that trade as a journeyman at Frankstown, Pa., where he lived for five years. In 1791, with one of his brothers and a Mr. Davis, he came down the Ohio river to Fort Colerain, in Hamilton county, where he and his companions endeavored to carry on farming operations. There were difficulties innumerable to be overcome, for conditions were still primitive, and the Indians, who still roamed this section, were a constant menace. It was found necessary that two of the party stand guard with loaded rifles to watch for the unfriendly redskins while the others did the work in the fields, and as this was found an unprofitable proceeding the little party returned to Pennsylvania. However, they had become enamored of the country, and in 1796 returned to this locality and located six miles north of Fort Colerain, at this time finding conditions greatly improved. Securing government land, James Hardin cleared and cultivated a farm and made a home, and continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1837. He and his wife were the parents of a large family of children, of whom James was the youngest. James Hardin the younger was born near Fort Colerain, in Hamilton county, and had what was considered a good education for his day and locality, being for several years a teacher in the public schools in the Carey neighborhood. Eventually, however, he turned his attention to the family vocation of farming and came to Butler county, where in Milford township he took over a timber tract of 160 acres which his father had entered and upon which there was $5,000 worth of walnut lumber. After clearing a small space, upon which he erected a round log cabin, he settled down to agricultural pursuits and continued to be engaged therein until his retirement in 1877, when he moved to Seven Mile, his death occurring at that place in 1883, while his widow survived him until 1903 and was ninety years of age at the time of her demise. Mr. Hardin was



EDWARD B. HARKRADER

a staunch Republican and served his community as township trustee. His religious connection was with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Hardin was twice married, his first wife being Susan Withrow, of Wayne township, a daughter of John Withrow, the first settler of that township. There were five children born to this union: John, who was a farmer and died in Iowa; Ella, who married George Dutrow; Anna, who married James Miller; Jane, who married John Gilmore; and Giles, who lives on the old home farm. William D. Hardin, the only child of the second union, was educated in the public schools and under the private instruction of Professor Starr, of Hamilton, who was his preceptor for three years. Following this he took up farming on the old home place, 160 acres of which he still owns. His first marriage was to Hannah Doddridge, who was born at Milton, Ind., a daughter of David Doddridge, an Indiana farmer, and a highly esteemed and genial citizen, whose family were strict members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Hardin died in 1887, leaving on child: Ollie, who is the wife of Ira Pottinger, a farmer on Pleasant Run, Butler county. Mr. Hardin was again married in 1890, to Mary Jane Pottinger, who was born in Wayne township, Butler county, a daughter of John Pottinger, of Butler county, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Hardin have had two children: James, the first born, died in 1893, at the age of five years, and Harry, who spent two years at the university in Valparaiso, Ind. He enlisted in September, 1918, for service in the United States Army. He is a splendid vocalist and a fine musician, playing on a number of instruments. While attending university he was a member of the glee club, and in addition has done a good deal of church and concert work, and is a leader among the young people of his locality, with whom he is a general favorite. William D. Hardin lived on the farm in Wayne township until 1897. In 1903 he built a home at Seven Mile, where he has since resided. He now rents his 160-acre property, but is not entirely inactive, as he has several acres at his home, and engages in fruit growing and truck gardening in a small way. A stalwart supporter of the Republican party, he has always taken a keen interest in county and township affairs, and has served efficiently as a member of the Seven Mile town council. His religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal church, and for many years he has served as treasurer of the church at Seven Mile. Mr. Hardin is a well-read man and keeps fully abreast of the times. An interesting conversationalist, he also possesses an excellent memory, and it is the frequent pleasure of his friends to have him relate some of his reminiscences of the early days of Butler county.

Edward Bruce Harkrader. One of the old and prominent families of the Miami valley is that which bears the name of Harkrader. Its members for the most part have been agriculturists and during the time the family has resided in this section they have been factors in the work of development and progress which has made this one of the most fertile parts of the state. A worthy representative of the family in Butler county is found in the person of Edward Bruce Harkrader, a leading and prominent farmer of Lemon township,

and a citizen who has contributed to his community's welfare in a number of ways. Mr. Harkrader was born on a farm in Turtle Creek township, Warren county, O., February 28, 1850, a son of John and Sarah Ann (Kyle) Harkrader. His grandfather, the original pioneer of the family in Ohio, was Benjamin Harkrader, a native of Virginia, who married Mary Ann Long, of Pennsylvania. The grandfather invaded Ohio at a time when Cincinnati was but a hamlet, and could he have seen future developments, it would have been possible for him to purchase land where the present court house stands for $7 per acre. Instead, Mr. Harkrader drove through in his wagon into Warren county, where he purchased seventy-five acres of land, on which had been made a small clearing, with a primitive log cabin. Settling down to the work of development, he cleared about thirty-five acres, and then, satisfied with the future prosperity of the region, bought 135 acres more. During the rest of his life he was engaged in making improvements and in harvesting the bounteous crops which rewarded his good management, skilled methods and tireless industry, and before his death erected a substantial and commodious brick house and various other buildings. He died at the age of seventy-nine years. Mr. Harkrader's first wife died at the age of sixty-two years, in the faith of the Dix Creek church, which she and her husband used to attend by making the journey on horse-back. They had a large family of children, including Allison, John, Joseph, Martha Ann and Eliza. Mr. Harkrader's second wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Brown, bore him one child: Benjamin. John Harkrader, the father of Edward B., had little chance to secure an education, such advantages as came to him being furnished by the primitive log cabin school of his district. He was brought up to hard work, and when still a young man earned thirty-seven and one-half cents a hundred splitting rails. The capacity for industrious labor thus ingrained in him in young manhood, never left him, and throughout his career he was noted and respected for his energetic operations. Mr. Harkrader married Sarah Ann Kyle, of Lemon township, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Ann (Long) Kyle, of New Jersey, and the progenitors of this family in Ohio, where Mr. Kyle was a lifelong farmer. He and his wife were the parents of nine children. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. John Harkrader lived on his father's farm for one year, and then bought 100 acres of land, to which were subsequently added purchases of eight and nineteen acres, all on Turtle Creek, Warren county. As a result of his industry, Mr. Harkrader was able to clear a good deal of land and became independent as to financial matters, while at the same time he continued to hold the esteem and confidence of his neighbors and all with whom he had business dealings. He was a Democrat in politics, and was honored by his fellow-citizens by election to various township offices. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, as was also his wife, who died in that faith at the age of seventy-seven years. Following her demise he went to live with a daughter, and later settled at Monroe, O., where his death occurred at the advanced age of ninety-one years, five months and twenty days. He and his wife were the par-

ents of nine children: Martha Ann, who married first Russell Doty and second Isaac Marshall; Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of the late George Meyers; Edward Bruce, of this review; Jane, deceased, who was the wife of the late James Compton of Warren county; Emma, the wife of Presley Stewart, of Monroe; Ida, the wife of Charles Grubb, of Franklin; John Clement, who died young; and two who died in infancy. Edward Bruce Harkrader attended the home schools in Warren county, including the old Bigger school, which he left at the age of seventeen years, to start upon his career of self-support. He was married in 1872 to Miss Phoebe Jane Compton, of Turtle Creek township, Warren county, a daughter of Enoch and Martha (McClellan) Compton, the former of Hamilton county, O., and the latter of Lemon township, Butler county. Mr. Compton was the owner of a good farm on Dix Creek, which he had himself cleared and improved, and upon which he died at the age of sixty-six years, his wife passing away at the age of eighty-two years. They were both well known and highly esteemed in the community in which their home was made. Mr. and Mrs. Compton were the parents of eight children: Sarah, Mary Ann, Phoebe Jane, James E., Wilson, Catherine, Charles and Frank. To Mr. and Mrs. Harkrader there were born six children: Charles, deceased, who married Nellie Currier; Albert, president of the Bert Harvester company of Middletown, who married Minna Brill; Carrie, the wife of E. Wilson, a farmer of Warren county; Artie, the wife of B. S. Leeds, of Middletown; Clarence, who died in infancy; Elmer, a practising dentist of Middletown, who married Bessie Boyd; and Ethel, who married Ernest Wilson, lives in Middletown. After his marriage, Mr. Harkrader located on his father's old place, but in 1880 made removal to Lemon township, Butler county, and settled on the Ellison Harkrader place, which he had purchased in 1879. This property consists of 104 acres, of which ten acres of the clearing was done by Mr. Harkrader, who has also installed numerous valuable and attractive improvements. In addition to carrying on a general farming business, he raises Poland China hogs and a good grade of cattle, principally Shorthorns, and is considered a good business manager, a skilled and thoroughly well-informed farmer and an excellent judge of live stock. His reputation as a man of integrity has been firmly established through many years of honorable dealing with his fellow-men. As a citizen he has given his unqualified support to all progressive movements, and has been particularly interested in the cause of education, having given impetus to an elevation of school system methods through his twenty-seven years of service as a member of the Lemon township school board. His political faith makes him a staunch Democrat. In religious matters he has been energetic and active, and for forty years has been a trustee and for sixteen years treasurer of the United Presbyterian church of Monroe.

Thomas Harley. During a period of years approaching a quarter of a century, Thomas Harley has been identified with the agricultural interests of Reily township, Butler county, and has also been identified with various movements which have resulted in the betterment and advancement of his locality. This well-to-do and progres-

sive farmer was born on a farm in Hanover township, Butler county, Ohio, in 1857, a son of Thomas and Anna (McAnnelly) Harley, natives of County Mayo and County Galway, Ireland, respectively. Thomas Harley the elder was a young man when he emigrated to the United States and first worked as a boatman on the Ohio river. While thus employed he met and married at Hamilton Miss McAnnelly, who had also come to this country alone, and not long thereafter they settled on a farm in Hanover township, where they lived for some years. Later they moved to Franklin county, Ind., and there rounded out their lives as agriculturists, winning and holding the respect and esteem of their neighbors as honest, honorable and God-fearing people. They were faithful members of the Catholic church and the parents of the following children: John, Andrew and Anna, who are all deceased; Stephen, a resident of Erie, Pa., and Thomas. Thomas Harley of this notice was a small child when his parents removed to Franklin county, Ind., and there his education was acquired in the public schools. He grew up as a farmer's son, and in 1884 was married in Franklin county to Lydia, daughter of Eli Myers, of that county. At that time he began farming on his own account, but after several years returned to Butler county, his native place, and settled on a farm in Oxford township, eventually coming to Reily township about the year 1896. In 1907, Mr. Harley purchased his present property, a well-cultivated tract on which he carries on extensive and successful operations, and which he has improved and made more valuable by the erection of substantial buildings and the installment of modern devices for eliminating many of the objectionable features of farm work. He is progressive, although practical, in his views, and is justly accounted one of his locality's substantial men. In politics a Democrat, he has taken an interest in public affairs, and has served as township trustee. During the period of the war he generously supported all war activities and evidenced his patriotism and public spirit in a number of ways. Mr. and Mrs. Harley had one son: Harry, who is deceased.

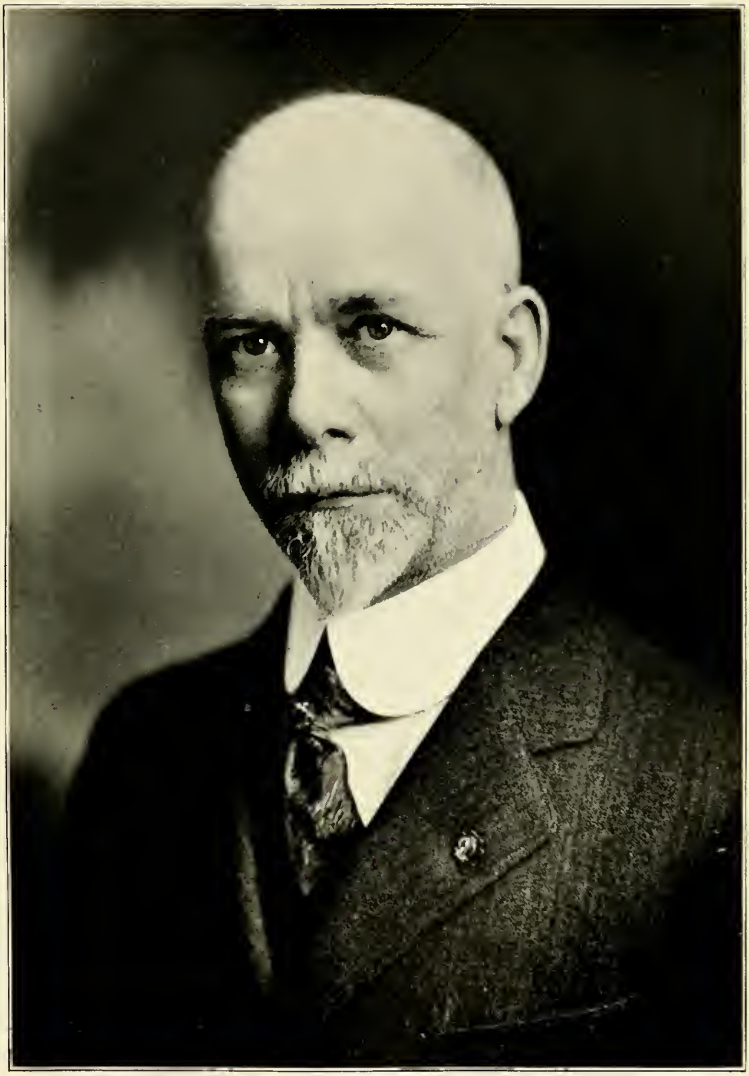
William L. Harris, a representative farmer of Oxford township, Butler county, was born in Fayette county, Ind., March 31, 1848, a son of John and Rebecca (Hamilton) Harris; the former of Warren county, Va., the latter of South Carolina. Archibald Hamilton, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was originally from County Antrim, Ireland. Coming to the United States, he settled in South Carolina and in 1813 located in Israel township, Preble county, Ohio, where he subsequently died. In Ireland he followed the weaver's trade; was twice married and had two children by the first wife and three by the second. John Harris was a son of Josiah Harris of English stock, his father, accompanied by a brother, having emigrated from England to this country. John was born in Virginia and upon reaching manhood removed to Kentucky, where he passed the remainder of his days in the pursuit of agriculture. He married Miss Margaret Kirkham, and to this union were born: James, John, Robert, Ann and Phoebe, all of whom settled in Preble county, Ohio, with their mother in 1813. John Harris was married in 1830

and lived in that county until 1845, when he went to Fayette county taking up forty acres of land, which he worked until the time of his death, in the year 1862. The following year, 1863, his wife died. Nine children were born to them: Josiah, died in Illinois; Sarah, Margaret, Nancy, Archibald, all deceased; Samuel, Robert, Scott and William L., of this sketch. He received his education in the paid schools in the county of his birth and in 1864, after the death of his parents, he moved to Preble county. He married Mary Jane Bell, daughter of William and Sarah (McCollum) Bell, both natives of Antrim County, Ireland, who came early to South Carolina and later to Israel township, Preble county, where they became respected members of the agricultural community. The following children were born to them: Mary Jane Bell, wife of the subject of this biography; Nancy C., in Indiana; Samuel, in Eaton, Ohio; William J., Matilda, Susan, Elizabeth, and Edward, all of whom are now deceased. After his marriage Mr. Harris moved to Pawnee county, Nebr., where his eldest son was born. After working as a carpenter for ten years in that state he returned to Preble county and resumed farming. In 1916, he disposed of his property and acquired his present farm of 113 acres in Oxford township, Butler county, which was known as the old Davis place. Although he has been in possession but a comparatively short time he has already made striking improvements and conducts a successful general farming business. To Mr. and Mrs. Harris have been born four children: William J., Helen, Grace, Clara May, and Samuel S. The three oldest children attended school at Columbus, Ohio. The family is actively identified with all movements concerning the betterment of public conditions, and holds membership in the United Presbyterian church at Hopewell.

W. T. Harrison. The largest insurance agency of Middletown, and one that has gained during a long and progressive career the full confidence of the people, is that conducted by W. T. Harrison, who is likewise a dealer in real estate and bonds, a notary public, and one of his city's most active and successful business citizens. Mr. Harrison was born at Springfield, Ohio, in 1863, a son of John D. and Barbara (Metzger) Harrison, the former a native of Lancashire, England, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The parents were married at Springfield, where they resided for several years, and in 1865 came to Middletown, where the father secured employment at his trade as a machinist. Subsequently he became a partner in the Middletown Agricultural company, which later was succeeded by the firm of Harrison & Company, and with this latter he continued to be identified until his death in 1876. W. T. Harrison grew to manhood at Middletown, where he secured his education in the graded and high schools, in the latter of which he spent but one term. He then secured his introduction to business affairs in the employ of W. H. Jones & Co., a grocery concern with which he remained seven years. At the end of that time he established a grocery business of his own, which he conducted with success for fourteen years. During this time he had become attracted to the life insurance business, and this ultimately grew to such proportions that he applied himself

uninterruptedly to the matter of selling insurance. Gradually from a strictly life business, he developed into an operator in all lines of risks, and at this time handles policies in the best companies for insurance against loss by fire, cyclone, death, accident, ill health and burglary and theft, in addition to handling plateglass, boiler, automobile and employers' liability insurance. As a real estate operator and dealer in bonds he has also built up an excellent business, and maintains large modern offices at 225 S. Main street, ground floor. Mr. Harrison is a business man of marked ability, and his standing in business circles of Middletown is evidenced in the fact that he has served as treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as having been treasurer of the Y. M. C. A. war fund, during the period of the great war. Although his business interests are numerous, he has always found time to devote to his community in the discharge of his duties of citizenship, and for seven years served as city treasurer of Middletown. He is an active and interested member of the Home Guards and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, and his political sentiments make him a Republican, although he is inclined to be liberal rather than radical. In 1885 Mr. Harrison was united in marriage with Mary E., daughter of Michael and Ellen (Warner) Simpson, of Butler county, Ohio, natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison have been the parents of six children: Fern, who is deceased; Ernestine, who is the wife of Freeman Essex; and Merrill Allen; Dorothy S., wife of Albert Munzenmaier; Mary Frances, who lives at home with her parents; and Warner Simpson, deceased.

George Harvey. The wonderful success which has attended the growth and development of the Gardner and Harvey interests of Middletown, may be ascribed in large part to the genius of members of the Harvey family. Coming of a long line of paper manufacturers, who have made this business their sole occupation for a number of generations, these men have contributed freely of their talents and industrious spirit to the furtherance of the interests of this concern, which is now recognized as one of the leading paper manufacturing industries of the country. A worthy representative of this family is found in George H. Harvey, treasurer of the Gardner Paper company, who was born near London, England, March 11, 1866, a son of Thomas and Frances (Roberts) Harvey. Thomas Harvey was born in Buckinghamshire, England, March 13, 1846, and as a young man applied himself to learning the family vocation of paper making. In 1872 he came to the United States and located first in Connecticut, going then successively to Massachusetts, New York, and Hull, Canada. He returned to Castleton, N. Y., and then went back to Canada, and for thirteen years was superintendent of a large paper mill near Ottawa, a plant which manufactured several different grades of paper. About 1899 Mr. Harvey came to Middletown to become paper maker at the plant of the Gardner Paper company, and to his almost marvelous genius in this direction is ascribed the phenomenal growth of this enterprise. Mr. Harvey is still considered one of that greatest paper making experts in the country. December 30, 1864, Mr. Harvey married Frances, daughter of Robert



GEORGE H. HARVEY

and Anna (Watts) Roberts, born June 14, 1844, in England, and to this union there were born two sons: George H. and Tom, who were mere lads when they accompanied their parents to the United States. George H. Harvey has always been, since boyhood, identified with the paper making industry. As secretary and general manager of the Colin-Gardner Paper company and treasurer of the Gardner-Harvey Paper company, he is one of the most prominent men in the industry in the country, and his various other business connections are proportionately important. He is the owner of a beautiful home on Yankee road, and is variously identified with the activities of Middletown, being a generous contributor to movements of a religious, educational and civic character. May 5, 1891, he married Elizabeth Jane, daughter of Robert and Agnes Ross, of West Springfield, Mass., and they have one son: Arthur Ross, born October 13, 1895, who attended the public schools of Middletown and is a graduate of Culver Military academy. He is now attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and married Miss Ruth Louise Bunnell, one of Middletown's most beautiful and accomplished young ladies. Tom Harvey, brother of George H. Harvey, was born in England, March 9, 1868, and after completing his education in the New England states, took up paper making. From New England he went to Canada and then successively to Kalamazoo, Mich., Chicago, Ill., and New York state, and about 1897 came to Middletown to build the Gardner-Harvey Paper mill. October 14, 1902, at Kalamazoo, Mich., he married Sarah Pinchon, of London, England, and they have three sons: Harold, attending Culver Military academy, at Culver, Ind.; George Edward and Gardner. Mr. Harvey owns one of the most palatial homes of Middletown, located on South Main street. The Harveys are all Methodists and take an active part in church work. At the Methodist Episcopal church corner there stands a beautiful fountain, with the inscription: "That we may never forget a Christian mother," which was erected by George H. and Tom Harvey as a memorial to their mother. The members of this family are public-spirited and quick to respond to good causes, men of genius, high moral character and manliness. They are supporters of the Republican party at elections.

Charles Hauserman, owner and proprietor of the White Section Stock farm, situated in Union township, Butler county, is a man of wide agricultural experience and is one of the county's representative and respected citizens. He was born in Mt. Carmel, Clermont county, Ohio, April 27, 1861. His father, also Charles Hauserman, had come to Clermont county when a boy thirteen years of age, was a farmer there all his active life, married in the county and six of his eight children are yet living, Charles being the only one in Butler county. The latter obtained a good common school education in Clermont county and assisted his father on the home farm until he was twenty-one years old. When he started out for himself, Mr. Hauserman came to Butler county, worked for farmers one year, then bought a team of mules and went into the hay hauling business, which he continued for twenty-three years. In the meanwhile he kept on investing in land and operated a small farm

until 1912, when he bought his present farm of 212 acres, which he conducts as a stock and dairy farm, keeping fifteen milch cows and annually feeding 150 head of hogs. Mr. Hauserman owns 362 acres of valuable land in Union township and his home place is well improved with comfortable and substantial buildings such as are necessary to wholesome farm life and the carrying on of large farm industries. In 1889 Mr. Hauserman married Miss Emma, daughter of Henry Heisel, and they have three children: Cora; Ada, wife of Ernest Anderson; and Stanley. As a prominent citizen of his township in a business way, Mr. Hauserman has often been tendered public office, but has declined, although always interested in public matters and giving his political support to the Republican party.

Hon. Wesley B. Hedding, who for many years has been a progressive and representative citizen of Middletown, was born at Milton, Northumberland county, Pa., in 1827, a son of William and Susan (Black) Hedding, and a grandson of William Hedding of New Jersey. The Black family originated in Ireland, while the father of Squire Hedding was born in Pennsylvania, and the parents came to Butler county in 1843, locating in Lemon township, where William Hedding continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his life. Wesley B. Hedding was sixteen years of age when the family came to Butler county, and here his education was completed in the country schools, following which time he was engaged in farming. Subsequently he mastered the trade of blacksmith, and while following this vocation was appointed postmaster at Lesourdsville, Ohio, a position which he held for two years. Moving to Middletown at that time, he resumed his trade, and during the administration of President Buchanan was appointed United States deputy marshal, a capacity in which he took part in settling the difficulties with the negroes at Chillicothe. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Union army for service during the Civil war, becoming a member of Company I, 83d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and took part in many engagements, including the siege of Vicksburg and the fighting in the Gulf. After a brave and faithful service he was mustered out at Cincinnati, in 1865, and returned to Middletown, where he secured employment as a clerk in the grocery store of James H. Mitchell. Subsequently, he was with James P. Curtis for eighteen months, and was then connected with J. M. Johnson in the dry goods business for two years, and later for four years in the same line with Simon Goldman. During that time he was elected justice of the peace and held that position for a period of thirty-five years. His judgment, sagacity, knowledge of human nature and absolute sense of justice made Squire Hedding one of the most popular officials who ever discharged the duties of this office and brought to him public confidence and high esteem. Eventually, he was chosen mayor of Middletown, and his first term was followed by three re-elections. Every measure for the advancement of Middletown along material, social and intellectual lines received his endorsement and encouragement, and to him in no little degree are due a number of the advantages which the city now possesses. His means, advice and energy were often called upon and freely given in

matters of moment and importance. As a member of the school board, he worked faithfully in behalf of the children and for an elevation of school standards and the betterment of the system. As a Democrat, he gave his support to that party's candidates, and his fraternal affiliations are with the local lodges of the Masons and Odd Fellows, in both of which he is popular with his fellow-members, and his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Hedding was married in 1869 to Miss Malinda Faries, daughter of Isaac C. and Mary (Selby) Faries, both born and reared in Butler county, and a granddaughter of Joseph Faries, also a native of this county, and great-granddaughter of Joseph Faries, who came from New Jersey. The Selby family was originally from Maryland. The strong traits in Squire Hedding's character have been such as to endear him to all with whom he has come in contact.

John L. Hedges began his career in Hamilton county in 1883 as an agriculturist and at the time of his death, in 1903, he was one of his community's prosperous and prominent agriculturists and a citizen who had high standing and reputation among his fellow-men. Mr. Hedges was born in Colerain township, Hamilton county, Ohio, a son of Stephen O. and Sarah (White) Hedges, and a grandson of Elias Hedges, who came to Ohio from Morristown, N. J., and whose grandson, Elias Hedges, jr., fought as a soldier in the Civil war. The children of Stephen O. and Sarah Hedges were: Elias, just mentioned; John L., of this notice; and Amelia, the widow of I. B. Willey. The education of John L. Hedges was acquired in the public schools, supplementing this by attendance at the select schools of his time and locality. When he put aside his schoolbooks, for several years he was his father's assistant in carrying on the work of the home place, but in 1883 founded a household of his own when he was united in marriage with Johanna, daughter of William and Mary (Kennedy) Curry. The parents of Mrs. Hedges were born in Limerick, Ireland, in which country they were married, and on their arrival in the United States settled near Evansville, Ind., but later moved to Crosby township, Hamilton county, Ohio, and then to Colerain county, where they passed the rest of their lives in agricultural pursuits. They were the parents of the following children: Michael, Patrick, Anna, Mary, John, Johanna, Ellen and William, of whom Johanna, Mary and John survive. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hedges settled down to farming and so continued until the time of Mr. Hedges' death, which occurred September 23, 1903, burial being made at Venice cemetery. Mr. Hedges was a successful farmer and the owner of 220 acres of land, a part of which is still operated by Mrs. Hedges, who survives him in the midst of a circle of appreciative friends, having her own comfortable home at Venice. Throughout his life Mr. Hedges maintained a high reputation for honesty, public spirit and ability. He was a devout member of the Presbyterian church, to which faith Mrs. Hedges also belongs. She has reared two adopted daughters, Ruth and Margaret Taylor, the latter of whom is now the wife of Howard Carrol, superintendent of schools, at Mason, Ohio.

George H. Helvey. On the list of retired citizens of Hamilton

who during many years of earnest endeavor exercised their talents and abilities to such good effect that they were able to lay aside the labors of life at a comparatively early age and spend the remainder of their careers in the enjoyments of existence, and one who was long well known in manufacturing circles is George H. Helvey. One of the founders of the firm of Hoover, Owens & Rentschler, he was connected with that concern for more than two decades in the capacity of general superintendent and designer, and established a firm place for himself in the confidence and esteem of his business associates. Mr. Helvey was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, December 15, 1853, a son of Harmon and Catherine (Early) Helvey, the former a native of Europe and the latter of Cincinnati. Harmon Helvey was but five years of age when brought by his parents to the United States, and his education was secured in the graded schools of Cincinnati, where he was reared to manhood and married. A mechanic by trade, after coming to Hamilton in 1861, he was associated with the firm of Long, Black & Alstatter company until his retirement. He voted the Democratic ticket. He and Mrs. Helvey were the parents of eight children, namely: Joseph and Charles, who are now deceased; Edwin, of Connorville, who is married and has a family; Catherine, deceased, who was married and had two children; August, deceased, who was married and had one child; Anna, deceased, who was married and had two children; Frank, a resident of Hamilton, who is married and has six children; and George H. George H. Helvey was eight years of age when he accompanied his parents to Hamilton, and here he completed his education in the graded schools. He early took up the machinist's trade as a vocation and mastered its details, following that business until 1880 at various shops and with a number of enterprises. In 1880 he became one of the founders, as noted, of the concern of Hoover, Owens & Rentschler, becoming general superintendent and designer, his business associates in this venture being J. C. Hoover, president; G. A. Rentschler, vice-president; Henry Sohn, secretary and treasurer; Joseph E. Owens and James E. Campbell. In 1882 this business was incorporated, and Mr. Helvey continued to be connected therewith until his retirement in 1901. In 1873 he was married to Mary E., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Heck, the former born in Germany and the latter at Nashville, Tenn. In 1889 Mr. Helvey purchased a home at Hamilton, remodeled it and lived therein until September, 1917, when he sold it. Since that time he and his wife have resided at Dair's Flats, and spent their winters in California. They are the parents of two children: Clarence Harmon and George Stanley. Clarence H. Helvey was born April 27, 1874, at Hamilton, where he attended the graded and high schools. He learned the machinist's trade as well as the calling of draughtsman, and is at present associated with the firm of Black & Clawson in the capacity of sales engineer. He married Gertrude Williams, of this city, and following their marriage built a home at No. 318 S. D street, where they now reside. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and Shriner and a member of the Hamilton club, Butler County Country club, Chamber of Commerce, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Y. M. C. A.

George Stanley Helvey was given a graded and high school education and is also a graduate in mechanical engineering of the Ohio State University, where he took a four-year course. At this time he is secretary and treasurer of the Miami Foundry company of Miamisburg Ohio. George H. Helvey has always interested himself in civic affairs in the way that aids the community and its people and has been a constructive and helpful citizen. During the administration of Mayor Charles Busch he was a member of the first board of sewer commissioners of Hamilton, his associates being Dr. S. L. Beeler, L. P. Clawson, Peter E. Schwab and Patrick Burns. He is a member of the Hamilton club, the Butler County Country club and the Automobile Club of Southern California. His political beliefs incline him to support the Republican party.

Anthony J. Hemsteger. Among the most favorably known and comfortably circumstanced of the employees of the American Rolling mill at Middletown, is Anthony J. Hemsteger. He is one of the fortunate few representing this element of the community whose diligent exertions and good management have enabled them, while still in the prime of life, to enjoy the rewards of unremitting industry under conditions of sound health, contentment and freedom from care, while still discharging his duties as superintendent of the sheet mills at the central works of his company. Mr. Hemsteger was born at Piqua, Ohio, April 3, 1877, a son of Joseph and Theresa (Dobmeyer) Hemsteger. His father was born in Germany and was still a lad when he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family settling at West Alexandria where Joseph Hemsteger became identified with the tailoring business. Later he moved to Piqua, Ohio, where his death was caused by an attack of the grippe, in 1889, but his widow survived him until August 29, 1902. They were the parents of twelve children, as follows: two who died in infancy; Joseph M. A., who died at the age of thirty-seven; Francis died at the age of six years; Benjamin, who died at the age of forty years; Louise, who died at Columbus, Ohio, in 1918; Clara, who is now Mrs. Michael Kramer, of Columbus, Ohio; Rose, who is unmarried and a resident of Columbus; Margaret, who married Richard Ferman, of Piqua; Mame, who married John Alexander of Dayton; Edward, of Columbus; and Anthony J., of this review. Anthony J. Hemsteger received his education in the Catholic schools of Piqua, Ohio, where, at the age of fourteen years, he entered the Third National bank, with which he continued to be identified until 1900. In that year he became identified with the American Sheet & Tin Plate company, at Piqua, and in 1911 was transferred to Middletown, where he associated himself with the American Rolling Mill company, as superintendent of the sheet mills at the central works, his present post. He is one of the most trusted of his company's employees and deserves the confidence in which he is held, for he is industrious, painstaking and thoroughly conscientious, as well as capable and competent in any matter which he undertakes. He is a Republican in his political affiliation and is a man of fine presence and very popular. With his family, he belongs to Holy Trinity Catholic church. April 19, 1896, Mr. Hemsteger married Florence

Margaret, daughter of Elijah and Olive (Lawder) Fristoe, of Sidney, Ohio, and to this union there has been born one son, Samuel, aged twenty-one years, who is attending the Ohio State university and spent several months in the students' training camp last year.

Rollin J. Henley. From the unvarying hard daily work of a worker at a trade to the proprietorship of a flourishing and extensive business enterprise, from obscurity to prominence in the business world, and from dependence upon others to self-reliance and independence—these things form the advancement and progress made by Rollin J. Henley within the space of a few short years. At this time Mr. Henley is proprietor of the Modern Planing mill, at 318 N. B street, Hamilton, and occupies a place in the business world that has come to him as a result and reward of his own efforts. Mr. Henley was born at Straughn, Henry county, Ind., where he received a public school education, and as a young man learned the trade of carpenter with his father, Charles Henley, who was a carpenter at Straughn all his life and died at that place in 1900 at the age of fifty-six years. Charles Henley married Martha White, of Henry county, Ind., who now makes her home at Richmond, Ind. They had four sons and five daughters, but the only ones to come to Hamilton have been Rollin J. and his brother Claude, the latter of whom has always been a carpenter and is now carpenter foreman at Coke Otto, Ohio. Rollin J. Henley followed his trade at various places as a journeyman, and following nine years at Buffalo, N. Y., came to Hamilton in 1903. Here he entered the planing mill of S. D. Mayer, with whom he worked for a number of years, and in 1917 became its purchaser, this being his present property, known as the Modern Planing mill. This is a two story structure, 48x86 feet, and is operated by ten motors, one for each planer or machine. He manufactures sash, doors, screens, kitchen cupboards, china closets and high class mill and specialty work, and makes a specialty of automobile bodies, selling in seven different states. His mill is well equipped throughout with modern machinery, appliances and appurtenances, and his second floor is used as an assembling room. From a modest beginning, Mr. Henley has worked his way steadily upward to prosperity and has done so in a way that has gained and held for him the respect and esteem of his associates and business competitors alike. In August, 1903, Mr. Henley was united in marriage with Charlotte Voss, who was born at Williamsville, N. Y., and they are the parents of two daughters: Eliza Nora and Leota Beatrice. They are devout members of the Church of Christ. The pleasant family residence is located at No. 222 Millikin street, where they extend hospitality to their many friends. Mr. Henley maintains an independent stand in regard to politics, and has been too busy with his business affairs to be an aspirant for public honors. He has not, however, been indifferent to the responsibilities of citizenship and has been a supporter of all good and constructive movements which have secured the approval of his judgment. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. in its various branches, and Mrs. Henley belongs to the Rebekahs.

John Herberth, who is a representative citizen, successful

MR. AND MRS. MARTIN HESS

farmer and good business man of Union township, is well known over Butler and adjacent counties, through which he has distributed meat for some years. Mr. Herberth was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, March 15, 1859, son of Constant J. and Sabina (Miller) Herberth. Both parents were born in Alsace, France. The father was only nineteen years old when he came to the United States and spent the rest of his life here, for many years being engaged in the butchering business in the city of Washington, D. C. Of his five children, two only are living, John and William. John Herberth first attended a parochial school and later the public schools of Cincinnati, in the meantime working in different business houses in various capacities until he was eighteen years of age, at which time he learned the butcher's trade and continued in that line for the next twelve years. He then turned his attention to farming, buying a tract of fifty-five acres in Union township, which he improved and operated for the next ten years, at the end of which time he went into the butchering business on his farm and soon had such a volume of trade that he had to make use of two trucks to distribute to customers through Hamilton, Warren and Butler counties. He is a practical man and has made this feature profitable through honest, careful business methods, and has greatly accommodated many households through the country regularly supplying good, wholesome meat right at their own doors. Mr. Herberth's enterprise in this direction is much appreciated. In 1883 he married Caroline Ader, daughter of Frank and Barbara (Smith) Ader, and they have had five children, three of whom are living: William, who is a returned overseas soldier of the Great war, now honorably discharged, having served in the 83d Division, 132d Infantry, from March, 1918, to August, 1919; Barbara, who married Frank Schatzel, and they have the following children, Mary, Herbert, William, John, George and Robert; and Clara, who married John Vogelsang, and they have one child, Clara. Mr. Herberth and his family belong to the Roman Catholic church at West Chester. The confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens may be indicated by the fact that he has served continuously on the school board in Union township for twenty-two years. In his political opinions he is a sound Democrat.

Martin Hess. Practical industry, wisely and vigorously applied, seldom fails of success. It carries a man onward and upward, brings out his individual character and acts as a powerful stimulus to the efforts of others. The greatest results in life are usually attained by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. The every-day life, with its cares, necessities and duties, affords ample opportunity for acquiring experience of the best kind, and its most beaten paths provide a true worker with abundant scope for effort and for self-improvement. It is along such lines that Martin Hess had won a substantial position among the agriculturists of Butler county, where he is the owner of a valuable and well-cultivated farm on the Franklin road. Mr. Hess was born at Alexandria, Campbell county, Ky., December 6, 1875, a son of William and Catherine (Smith) Hess. His father, a native of Germany, emigrated to the United States as a youth of eighteen

years and located in the vicinity of Alexandria, where he followed farming until 1883. In that year he removed to Butler county, Ohio, and purchased a fine farm of eighty acres, which he put under a high state of cultivation and improved by the erection of a set of valuable and attractive buildings. Later he purchased west of Middletown another farm, which he also improved, and upon which he spent the remainder of his life in industrious and successful agricultural operations. He was one of the highly esteemed men of his locality and had the good will and esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances. Martin Hess was eight years of age when he accompanied his parents to Butler county, and here his education was secured in the district schools. He grew to manhood on the home place, adopted farming as his life work, and was married February 16, 1897, to Miss Marie Elizabeth Pape. She was born in Germany and came to the United States as a child of twelve years, the family settling at Cincinnati, where she grew to womanhood. Mr. and Mrs. Hess are the parents of five children: Carrie Marie, Catherine Elizabeth, Gerhart William Martin, Clara Edna Louise and Rolland Albert. Mr. Hess is now the owner of the home place, consisting of seventy-seven acres of well-cultivated soil, on which he carries on mixed farming in addition to operating a large dairy. His career has been one in which he has exercised native talent and business ability with good results, combining these qualities with integrity and fidelity, and his standing among his fellows is accordingly high. In politics a Republican, he has not sought office or public preferment, but has contented himself with performing the duties of a good citizen. His religious connection is with St. Paul's Lutheran church of Middletown, of which Mrs. Hess and his children are also members.

Jabez Hetzler. Since its establishment in Butler county at an early date in the history of this community, the vocation of agriculture has received decided impetus through the labor and good judgment of the members of the Hetzler family. The present representative of this family in Madison township, who possesses the same characteristics that established the reputation of the earlier residents bearing that name, is Jabez Hetzler, of section 35, who was born in this township, November 6, 1861, a son of Gideon G. and Susanna (Lehmer) Hetzler. The pioneer founder of this family in Butler county was the great-grandfather of Jabez Hetzler, Peter Hetzler, a son of George Hetzler of Pennsylvania, and himself a native of that state, who settled on Brown's Run, in Madison township, and there passed the rest of his life in farming. The great-grandfather was a soldier of the Revolution, who fought in the battle of the Brandywine, and was the father of nine sons and five daughters. Peter Hetzler, the grandfather, and his wife Nancy, had three children: Nancy, who married Joseph Stout and lived at Union City, Ind.; Peter, who married Mollie Wagner and lived in Darke county, O.; and Gideon G. Gideon G. Hetzler lived for seventy-six years on the old homestead, all of his life, with the exception of two years spent at Canton, and died at the home of his son, Gideon, in Darke county. He was a man of exemplary

character, an industrious and painstaking farmer, and a member of the United Brethren church. In politics he was a Republican. Mrs. Hetzler, who died on the old homestead, was also a faithful member of the church, which Peter Hetzler had assisted in building in 1861. To Gideon C. and wife were born Jabez, William and Mary, all living. Jabez Hetzler attended the district schools of Madison township and remained on the homestead until 1885, in which year he went to Union City, Ind., where he spent two years. He then spent ten years in Montgomery county, O., but finally returned to Butler county, where he purchased the Walter Carney place of eighty acres, on which he now makes his home. He has made numerous improvements, among them being a fine barn, and carries on general farming in a modern and scientific way, raising tobacco and all kinds of grain. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and his religious connection is with the Union Chapel of the United Brethren church, which his grandfather helped to build. Mr. Hetzler is greatly interested in the early history of the region, and has a fine collection of relics of the pioneer days, including a number of primitive articles, all made by hand, among them being an ax, an auger, a fork and several chairs. In his community he is well known and highly respected for his industry and business reliability. Mr. Hetzler married Miss Lulu Hartley, of Bunker Hill, Ill., a daughter of Frank and Esther (Miller) Hartley, of Newton, Ind. Mrs. Hetzler's parents lived at various times in Indiana, Illinois, Kansas and Missouri, and her mother died at St. Louis, Mo., while her father passed away in Kansas. There were three children in the Hartley family: Mrs. Hetzler; Bertha M.; and Edgar, of Springfield, O. Mr. and Mrs. Hetzler have one son: Chester H., born February 22, 1886, who attended the home schools and spent two years in study at Germantown, and who has always lived at home, where he is his father's associate in his farming operations.

Thomas V. Hicks. It is not unusual to find the men of a family following the same line of activity for several generations, inherited inclinations causing son to follow father in a given line of work until it has become a family tradition to be so engaged. In the case of Thomas V. Hicks, of Middletown, there is found an illustration of this fact, for the Hicks family, for more than 200 years, has been identified in some way with the iron industry, the present subject being connected with the American Rolling mill. The family originated in Machen, Monmouthshire, Wales, where for many years its members were well known. Mr. Hicks' great-grandfather was William Hicks, and his grandparents, James and Martha Hicks, the latter born in 1785, while his parents were Isaac and Mary Ann (Vigors) Hicks. Thomas V. Hicks was born in Wales, April 11, 1863, and was about six months old when brought to the United States, the family locating at Cleveland, where his father, a refiner of iron, found employment. He continued to follow his chosen vocation during the remainder of his life and died at Cleveland, November 20, 1893, Mrs. Hicks having passed away there April 30, 1880. Thomas V. Hicks received his education in the public schools of Cleveland, and as a youth adopted the family vocation, which he has

always followed. After mastering his trade, he traveled quite extensively as a journeyman, and spent some time at Hammond, Ind., and other places. In 1901 he came to Middletown, where he became associated with the American Rolling mill, and has since continued as an employee of this large plant; where he is engaged in heating sheet-iron. He is known as a skilled and industrious workman who has the best interests of the concern at heart and who is popular with his fellows at the plant. He was married February 5, 1910, to Lillian, daughter of Albert B. and Margaret Blanchard, of Cincinnati, and granddaughter of William Blanchard. To this union there has come one son: Robert Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks have their own home on Christel avenue, where they entertain their numerous friends. Mr. Hicks subscribes to the faith of the Socialist political party. His fraternal affiliation is with the Masons, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree and he still holds membership in the blue lodge at Dresden, the Council and Commandery at Hamilton, and the Consistory at Dayton, and also affiliates with the R. A. M. at Middletown.

George W. Hileman, whose operations are conducted on one of the splendid farms of Fairfield township, Butler county, finds not only profit but also special satisfaction in the enterprise which thus engages his attention, for the farm is not only known as one of the best of its area in the county but is also the old homestead of his father, John Hileman, in whom the ownership of the property is still vested. Due record concerning the family is given in the sketch of the career of the father, on other pages of this volume, so that further review is not demanded in the present connection. George W. Hileman was born at Symmes Corner, Fairfield township, December 22, 1868, and in the schools of his native township he received his early educational discipline. Thereafter he continued to be associated with his father's farm activities until he had attained to his legal majority, when he initiated independent operations by renting a part of the Slade farm, upon which he remained two years. For the ensuing three years he rented a farm near Schenck station, and the next three years found him similarly engaged on the De-Forest farm, which he rented. He then, in 1900, removed to his father's fine homestead farm, which comprises 107 acres, all available for effective cultivation with the exception of seven acres. Here Mr. Hileman is giving prolific exemplification of the success which is to be achieved through modern and scientific methods of farm enterprise, and he thus has a secure place as one of the representative agriculturists of his native township, the while he is known as a liberal and public-spirited citizen well worthy of the unqualified esteem that is reposed in him. He has had no ambition for the activities of practical politics but is found arrayed loyally in the local ranks of the Democratic party. The year 1898 recorded the marriage of Mr. Hileman to Miss Martha E. Beeler, daughter of John and Martha A. Beeler, well known residents of Butler county, and the supreme loss and bereavement in the life of Mr. Hileman came when his devoted wife passed to eternal rest, in 1912. She is survived by seven children: Ivy, Harry, Earl, Albert, Freda, Eva and

Ada. Harry married Miss Bertha Vannati and they have two children, Elmer and Merle. Ada is the wife of Stanley Moore and they have three children, Everett, Gaylin and Raymond.

John S. Hileman, a retired farmer residing at Symmes Corner, Butler county, has long been associated with agricultural industry in this, his native, county, and he is now one of the venerable and honored native sons of the county. John S. Hileman was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, November 14, 1842, and is a son of John and Nancy (Smiley) Hileman. The father was also born in this county, and the mother claimed Pennsylvania as the place of her nativity. John Hileman not only developed a productive farm in this county but also followed his trade, that of blacksmith, for a long period of years. Of the children the subject of this review is the eldest; and the names of the others are here given in respective order of birth: William, Mrs. Eliza Claybaugh, James, Mrs. Mary Miller and Daniel. John S. Hileman gained his initial farm experience in Butler county, and while he thus assisted in the work of the home farm he did not neglect the advantages that were offered in the common schools of the locality and period. His marriage was solemnized in 1866 and he and his young wife established their home at Symmes Corner. Later he engaged in farming on rented land, and finally he purchased a farm near Fairplay, where he continued his successful activities as an agriculturist and stock grower for many years. In 1900 Mr. Hileman and wife removed to their present attractive home at Symmes Corner, a pleasant little rural community in which they established their residence. He recently sold his farm, comprising 107 acres and known as one of the excellent places of Fairfield township. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he and his wife have been liberal in the support of religious work in their community. They are venerable representatives of pioneer families of the beautiful Miami valley, and their gracious and unassuming lives have won to them a host of friends. The year 1866 recorded the marriage of Mr. Hileman to Lydia Ellen Applegate, and their devoted companionship has thus continued during a period of more than half a century. Mrs. Hileman is a daughter of Hamilton and Olivia (Whelan) Applegate, both of whom were born and reared in Hamilton county, this state. The father was a potter by trade and for a number of years he operated a pottery in Mercer county. Of the children Mrs. Hileman is the eldest; John O. was next in order of birth; Catherine is the wife of Joseph Pierson; and Aaron and Margaret are deceased. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hileman are George, who is a prosperous farmer in Fairfield township, married Martha E. Beeler, and they have seven children: Ivy, Harry, Earl, Ada, Freda, Albert and Eva. Earl was in active service with the American Expeditionary Force in France during the World war, and likewise saw service in connection with war activities in Italy. Charles is a substantial farmer in Fairfield township, married Alida Pfeiffer, and they have one child, Naomi. Benjamin, who is also connected with agricultural industry in Fairfield township, wedded Miss Olive Coombs, and they have two children, Echo and Edith. Burton, who resides at

Hamilton, married Miss Bessie Dickson, and their only child, Leroy, was in the nation's military service in the late war, though his command did not go across seas. Jesse, the youngest of the children, maintains his home at Hamilton, the maiden name of his wife having been Hattie Strait and their one child being a son, Orion. During the progress of the World war Mr. Hileman gave every possible aid to the government in its military activities, by subscription to the various loans, including the purchase of war savings stamps. His loyalty and patriotism have always been marked.

Thomas Hincks. For industry, skill in workmanship and fidelity to his company's interests, the American Rolling Mill company's list of employees contains no name more worthy of mention than that of Thomas Hincks, who during the period of his employment at Middletown has proven faithful to every trust imposed in him. He is a native of Manchester, England, and a son of Moses and Susan (Bristow) Hincks, who still survive. Mr. Hincks was a young man when he came to the United States and was variously employed at his trade until coming to Middletown, when he became a roller in the plant of the American Rolling mill, a position which he has since held. He is a Knight Templar Mason, is liberal in his political views, and, with his family, belongs to the Episcopal church. In 1917 he erected a handsome dwelling at the corner of Third and Monroe streets, where he entertains his numerous friends with lavish hospitality. Christmas Day, 1891, Mr. Hincks was united in marriage with Hannah Jane, daughter of George and Ellen (Robson) Davis, the former of whom died in June, 1891, and the latter November 17, 1908. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hincks; Helen, who married Ralph A. Kerschbaum, and who is in the employ of the C. & R. R. R.; Susanna, who married Francis E. Williams, who was with the Motor Transport Corps at Camp Sherman for twelve months; George, who entered the United States Army in 1918 as a member of the Thirteenth Service Company of Aviators, at Camp Vail, N. J.. George, after spending some fourteen months in this service, became a student in the Detroit (Mich.) university. Francis E. Williams, son-in-law of Mr. Hincks, also saw like service in the aviation corps at Camp Vail, N. J.; and Mabel and Thomas, jr., who reside with their parents. Francis E. Williams is a son of Frank H. and Dica (Keplinger) Williams, who came from Morrow to Middletown, Ohio, in 1892. He has three sisters: Fern, the wife of Porter Beekman; Mildred and Muriel.

Gustav Hinkle, the owner of the old Petry farm, in Reily township, and a man esteemed for his integrity and good citizenship, was born near Darrtown, Ohio, January 7, 1869, a son of Charles and Lena (Baldwin) Hinkle, natives of Germany. The mother of Mr. Hinkle came to the United States when a child, with her parents, the family settling near Trenton, Ohio, in which community she met and married Charles Hinkle, who had emigrated to America in company with his brother. Following their union, the parents located near Darrtown, and there the father passed away in 1877. His widow survived him until 1904, and at the time of her death was one of the highly esteemed women of her community. There were

RESIDENCE OF THOMAS HINCKS, MIDDLETOWN

SIXTY-FOURTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. BENJAMIN HINKLE (At Left)

seven children in the family: Fred, Jacob and Charles, who are deceased; Lena; Mary, who married George Austin; Katie, the wife of Jesse Boohigh; and Gustav. Gustav Hinkle received his education in the public school at Darrtown, and upon completing his studies returned to the assistance of the family on the home farm. He had always known the meaning of hard work, for he had been but eight years of age when the death of his father made it necessary that everyone in the family do something to aid in adding to the general income. For several years he worked on a farm by the month, but after his marriage removed to Madison township, where for one year he was a renter. He next spent a short period at Darrtown, and then engaged in farming in Reily township, coming to his present place in 1917. He has a well-cultivated and highly-improved estate of 163 acres, and is regarded as one of the successful men of his township in material matters. He is a member of the German Reformed church and in politics is a Democrat. His citizenship has always been of a high order, and during the war period he was a supporter of the various drives promulgated to assist the country in winning the war. January 10, 1894, Mr. Hinkle married Anna, daughter of George Popp, of Reily township, who was also the father of George, John, Elizabeth and Andrew. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hinkle, namely: Park R., who is assisting his father in the cultivation of the old Petry place, and is one of the young and energetic agriculturists of Reily township. Flora, who is the wife of Clyde Wehr, of this township; and Jessie, the wife of Roscoe Anthony, also of this community, all farming people. The pleasant Hinkle family home is located on Oxford Rural Route No. 5.

Benjamin Hinkle. The present generation has little conception of the great obstacles which had to be overcome by the farmers of a half a century or more ago, or appreciation of the changes that have taken place in agricultural methods, and which have transformed farm life to such an extent that today it offers greater inducements than at any previous time in the world's history. Butler county has a most interesting history, made equally so by the pioneers and those who came after them, and a family that has been important from pioneer times and has played its part in the development of the county is that of Hinkle, which is honorably represented by the venerable Benjamin Hinkle of West Middletown. Mr. Hinkle was born in Butler county, Ohio, December 24, 1827, and represents one of the pioneer families of the state, to which his paternal grandfather came during the closing years of the eighteenth century, before Ohio had been admitted to the Union. Joseph Hinkle, father of Benjamin, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1787, and five years later was brought to Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life, dying July 3, 1881, the day President Garfield was shot. He was well versed in Indian lore and customs, having passed the early portion of his life in Ohio at a time when the Indians were more in evidence than the white settlers. The grandfather of Benjamin Hinkle was a half brother of the noted inventor, Robert Fulton. Four of his father's brothers were soldiers of the War of 1812, and his stepgrandfather, Gabriel Hutchins, was in the Revolutionary war.

Throughout the active years of his life Benjamin Hinkle has been identified with agricultural matters in Butler county and has contributed materially to the growth of the industry and the elevation of its standards. He has resided on his present fine homestead farm near Middletown, since 1859, and has purchased and sold a number of other farm properties in Butler county. Through his upright life and honorable dealing with his fellow-men he has won and holds the respect and confidence of the people, and few men are more worthy of the admiration and esteem of their townspeople. September 26, 1850, Mr. Hinkle married Nancy Selby, who was born March 18, 1830, in Butler county, a daughter of Middleton and Rachael Selby, and also a representative of one of the sterling old pioneer families of this part of the Miami valley. She died May 15, 1917, after having borne her husband eleven children and assisted him in partly rearing three others. Of their own children, three only survive: Mary; Bertha, the wife of Philip Telman of Dayton; and Benjamin, of Preble county. Mr. Hinkle and his daughter Mary occupy the old home at West Middletown, where his daughter, who had never married, renders him affectionate care and constant devotion in the evening of his life. She is one of the most highly esteemed women of her community, where her charities have been numerous and where her many excellencies of mind and heart are recognized and appreciated. Belonging to this same family, is Miss Laura Hinkle, daughter of Joseph and Mary Ann (Selby) Hinkle, both deceased. She has four brothers and three sisters: Gustavus and Charles, of Monroe, Ohio; Sam of Kansas; Jacob, of Columbus, Ohio; and Jane, Mrs. Bernard Kramer, of Monroe; and two other sisters, Mrs. Rachael Paullin and Mrs. Elizabeth Faries, are deceased. Miss Hinkle was born in Madison township, Butler county, where she was reared on the home farm and attended the public schools. She remained single, tenderly caring for her parents during their declining years, and now makes her home on the old farm homestead in Butler county, where she is widely known and esteemed and the center of a wide circle of devoted friends. Mrs. Elizabeth Hinkle, grandmother of Mary and Laura Hinkle, raised seventeen children of her own and three others.

Clarence A. Hoelle. Never before in the annals of American history has the farmer come into his own so thoroughly and emphatically as at the present time, for the tension of the great World war proved conclusively the inestimable value of his productive service, which post-war conditions still further enhance. Butler county, Ohio, is fortunate in claiming a fine contingent of enterprising and progressive young disciples of husbandry, and of these aggressive exponents of farm enterprise in these exigent times Clarence A. Hoelle is a prominent representative of Fairfield township, where he is conducting successful operation on the old Grey farm, of 112 acres. He removed to this place in the summer of 1919 and here is demonstrating his splendid capacity for productive farm enterprise. As a public-spirited citizen he takes loyal interest in community affairs, his political support being given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife being active communicants of

St. Mary's Catholic church at Hamilton. Mr. Hoelle was born in Ross township, Butler county, April 29, 1897, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Hogan) Hoelle, both likewise natives of this county, where they now maintain their residence on their farm, in Union township, both being communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church at Hamilton, and the father being a Democrat in politics, his entire active career having been marked by close association with agricultural industry in his native county. Of the children the eldest is Timothy, of whom individual mention is made on other pages of this publication; Clarence A., of this sketch, was the next in order of birth; and John, Joseph, Francis, Lewis, Phillip and Marie are at the parental home. One child, Stephen, died when young. Clarence A. Hoelle gained his earlier educational discipline in the district schools and supplemented this by attending, for one year, the parochial school of St. Mary's church at Hamilton. Of his activities since his marriage due mention has already been made, and prior to that time he had been associated with his father in farm work. May 15, 1918, recorded the marriage of Mr. Hoelle to Miss Evelyn Kramer, a daughter of Anthony and Mary (Stephens) Kramer, who now reside in the city of Hamilton, where Mr. Kramer, a painter by trade, is in the employ of the Estate Stove Works. Of the Kramer children the eldest is Catherine, the wife of Joseph Hagan, of Hamilton; Dora, is the wife of Victor Surrel, of Dayton, this state; Clara is the wife of Charles Nock, of Dayton; Mrs. Evelyn Hoelle was the next in order of birth; and Viola remains at the parental home. Mr. and Mrs. Hoelle find the joys of their pleasant home greatly enhanced by the presence of their little daughter, Thelma Marie, who was born May 18, 1919.

Henry Hoelle. Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, is noted for its large number of farms of comparatively small acreage and in most instances these have become popularly known because of their excellent productivity. It is a well-known fact that many farmers much prefer to own small-sized farms, every acre of which is given the most critical attention, than to have a farm of hundreds of acres which is not so well cared for. It has been shown that a large percentage of the small acreage farms are more desirable from the standpoint of crop yield and financial returns from investment than the more extensive tracts, furthermore the farmer is relieved of the countless worries which invariably are associated with large land holdings. Among the Ross township agriculturists who has achieved most enviable results with his comparatively small acreage is Henry Hoelle. Although his holdings consist of but fifty-five acres he has developed each and every one of these to the highest stage of productivity and those familiar with agricultural affairs in that section assert that he has one of the most desirable of the numerous small farms to be found in the township. Incidentally, it might be stated that Mr. Hoelle is thoroughly enthused over his acres and has the greatest faith in their future as producers. It is said of him that he is typical of the Ohio agriculturist who gets results, as he is untiring in his efforts at all times and realizes that hard and faithful work is the determining factor in bringing about success. He was born

in Ross township, November 30, 1870, one of six children of John and Frances (Schwartz) Hoelle, both of whom were born in Germany and came to America while single. They were married in Butler county. The father settled in Ross township and purchased fifty acres of land there on which he made many improvements. Like so many other prosperous agriculturists in this township who were born in Germany he was always an industrious worker and kept in mind the fact that industry and determination combined count much in bringing success. Also it was said of him that he was very much attached to his wife and family and was careful that the children were reared in a community where there were no contaminating influences. He passed away on the farm which he had worked so hard to develop and his legion of friends missed him as a loyal neighbor who had at heart at all times not only the best interests of the community at large, but also the welfare of each and every inhabitant of the township. He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church of Hamilton, Ohio. Since his death the widow has made her home with the children, of whom the five others besides Henry are: William Jacob, who is a farmer in Fairfield township; Clara, who lives in Hamilton, Ohio, and is the widow of Benjamin Lagedrost; August, who is a farmer in St. Clair township; and Lena, who is the wife of Le Roy Weherand and lives in Hamilton. Henry Hoelle receved his education in the home schools and also Catholic schools. He resided with his parents up to the time of his marriage to Miss Anna Wiglow in July, 1899. This couple have five children, Mary, Leo, Vincent, George and Henry. For a short time after his marriage Henry Hoelle farmed near the old home place in Ross township and then purchased his present farm, which he has improved greatly from time to time. He is engaged in general farming, his activities to a large degree including dairying, the raising of hogs, horses and cattle. He is a staunch Democrat, but has never sought or held public office. He and his wife are members of St. Peter's Roman Catholic church at Hamilton.

Timothy Hoelle maintains due relative precedence as one of the vigorous farmers of the younger generation in his native county, where he conducts successful operations on a well improved farm of 125 acres, known as the Tischner place and eligibly situated in Fairfield township, Butler county. Here he gives his attention to diversified agriculture, besides which he raises a due complement of live stock, as a proper adjunct to his enterprise. He established his residence upon this farm in 1917, soon after his marriage, and here his activities demonstrate his business ability, as well as his thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the policies best adapted to farm industry in this section of the Buckeye state. Mr. Hoelle was born in Ross township, Butler county, November 28, 1894, and is a son of Jacob and Mary (Hogan) Hoelle, the former a native of the city of Hamilton, Ohio, and the latter of Ross township, Butler county. The father has given his entire active life to farm enterprises and he and his wife now reside on their farm in Union township, Butler county, both being earnest communicants of St. Mary's Catholic church at Hamilton and his political allegiance being given to the

Democratic party. Of the eight children, Timothy, of this review, is the eldest; Clarence H. is a farmer in Fairfield township and the maiden name of his wife was Evelyn Kramer; and John, Joseph, Francis, Lewis, Phillip and Marie remain at the parental home. He whose name initiates this sketch was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm and acquired his early education in the public schools and St. Mary's parochial school at Hamilton. He continued to be associated with his father in farm operations until the time of his marriage, and then removed to the farm on which he is now conducting independent and successful activities as an agriculturist and stock grower. He is a Democrat in political views and he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, as members of St. Mary's parish at Hamilton. On the 17th of October, 1917, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hoelle to Miss Clara Renners, who was born in East Hamilton and who is a daughter of Joseph and Christina Renners, the former of whom is deceased and the latter of whom still resides at East Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Hoelle have a winsome little daughter, Rita, who was born April 10, 1919.

A. W. C. Hoffman, who is serving in his second term as clerk of Butler county, is well known in business circles at Hamilton, where he has filled positions of responsibility for many years. Mr. Hoffman was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 11, 1873. His parents were Christian and Louise (Phillips) Hoffman. Both were born in Germany, came young to the United States and were married in this country. Until the death of the father, in 1875, the family lived in Cincinnati, where he followed the tinner's trade, when the mother and two children, A. W. C. and Carrie, came to Hamilton and the mother died in this city. A. W. C. Hoffman obtained his education in the public schools of Hamilton, and a commercial college, after which he was a clerk in the dry goods store of T. V. Howell, then entered the First National bank in a clerical capacity and remained five years. Mr. Hoffman then became bookkeeper for the American Malting company and continued with that corporation for twenty-one years. In 1916 he was elected county clerk, on the Democratic ticket, assumed the duties of the office in 1917, and was shown approval of his administration of the office by re-election. In 1902 Mr. Hoffman married Miss Sadie, daughter of Valentine and Marie Becker, of Hamilton, in which city Mr. Becker followed the trade of a cabinet maker. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman have the following children: Robert B., William E., Louise K., Ruth C., and Richard E., the two older sons being students in the high school. Mr. Hoffman and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. During the late war, he was active in promoting many patriotic movements, giving time, money and effort. He is identified with the order of Eagles, Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Monkey Mutual Aid and also the Modern Woodmen, and takes an active interest in the West Side Aid association. The family resides at No. 401 Miller avenue, Hamilton.

Conrad Hoffman, who is an experienced and successful farmer in Union township, Butler county, has been a resident of the United States for thirty-six years and during all that time has followed an

agricultural life. He was born in the province of Bavaria, Germany, February 14, 1859, son of Conrad and Margaret Hoffman, who were farming people in Bavaria and spent their lives there. Conrad Hoffman attended school, then worked on a farm until old enough for compulsory military service. He spent three years in the German Army and when relieved decided to come to the United States where he knew many of his countrymen were prospering. Mr. Hoffman crossed the Atlantic ocean in 1883, made his way to Ohio and stopped at first in the city of Cincinnati. He soon found farm work in Hamilton county and on proving competent he was made foreman on the big Moerline farm, which position he held for seven years. He then moved to a farm situated on the line between Hamilton and Butler counties, where he lived for seven years, in 1900, moving from there to the Mathers farm in Union township, Butler county. Mr. Hoffman is profitably operating ninety-five acres, carrying on both crop and stock raising, and has the reputation of being one of the best judges of stock in the county. In 1887 he married Anna, daughter of John and Mary (Schoenberger) Lindner, and they had one son, Henry, born April 5, 1888, who died December 25, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman are members of Zion Lutheran church. Mr. Hoffman is an intelligent, well informed man, always taking a good citizen's interest in public affairs, and for many years has been a Republican voter.

Jacob Hoffman. The fertile agricultural community of Wayne township, Butler county, has a capable and highly respected representative in the person of Jacob Hoffman, who rents and farms 273 acres of highly cultivated land and has been a resident of Butler county all his life. He was born on a farm two and one-half miles south of Miamisburg, Ohio, June 26, 1861, a son of Adolph and Margaret (Agney) Hoffman, natives of Germany. **The parents of** Mr. Hoffman came to the United States as young people, single, and met and were married in Mercer county, Ohio. There Adolph Hoffman carried on operations on a farm which had been purchased him by his father, and, being a hard-working man, made a success of his labors. He died in 1917 in the faith of the Lutheran church, of which Mrs. Hoffman, who is likewise deceased, was also a member. He was a Democrat in politics and a man who had in full degree the respect and esteem of his neighbors. There were five children in the family, namely: Phoebe, who married Charles Krauth of Trenton, Ohio; Jacob, of this review; Frank, a resident of Miamisburg, an engineer by vocation; Margaret, who married Albert Fornshell, of Miamisburg; and Charlotte, who lives with her brother, Jacob. Jacob Hoffman had only a limited education as he was expected to furnish his father with much assistance in his boyhood and youth, and a great deal of hard work fell to his lot. Until he was eighteen years of age he remained under the parental roof, and then left home and began working out among the farmers of his locality. In 1892 he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Truster, of Wayne township, a daughter of Lewis Truster, a sketch of whose career will be found on another page of this volume. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman: Clarence J., Elmer A., Paul, Clyde,

JACOB HOFFMAN AND FAMILY

Marie, Mabel and Viola. After marriage, Mr. Hoffman located in Wayne township, Butler county, where he was employed by Sam and Abe Grafft, and then engaged in farming for one year in the vicinity of Collinsville. The next eleven years were spent in farming for H. H. Long, in Wayne township, and for six years thereafter he farmed for Sam Huston. In 1914 he settled on the J. J. Inman place in Wayne township, where he farms 273 acres of highly cultivated land, on which he carries on general farming and raises fine cattle and Chester White hogs. He is a Democrat in politics and he and Mrs. Hoffman are members of the Presbyterian church at Seven Mile.

James George Hogan. The ranks of the workers whose contributions in the way of activities in various positions serve to keep in constant action the machinery of the great American Rolling mill plant at Middletown, are recruited from numerous communities, and practically every state from Ohio eastward to the Atlantic coast has its full quota of representation. In this representation there are to be found many men who claim the larger cities as the place of their birth, and not a few in the plant are natives of Cincinnati. In this connection mention may be made of James George Hogan, whose entire working career has been passed with the American Rolling mill, and who was born at Cincinnati, April 21, 1885, his parents being John W. and Rose (Bechtold) Hogan. The family came to Middletown in 1900, when the elder Hogan was one of the first men to become connected with the big concern mentioned, in the capacity of engineer, and he still holds this position, being one of the concern's most trusted employees. There were eight children in the family: James, George; John, who died at the age of thirteen years; and Rose, Helen, Margaret, Hilda, Anna and Mary. As a lad James George Hogan attended St. Xavier's college, Cincinnati, and after coming to Middletown, at the age of fifteen years, was for a time a student at St. John's parochial school. When he was ready to enter upon his career, he entered the steel mills in a humble capacity, and from that time to the present has risen gradually by steadily and thoroughly mastering the details of each post as he has held it. He is a progressive, industrious and faithful worker, and a young man of excellent character, who has insinuated himself into his employers' confidence and his associates' friendship. Mr. Hogan was married June 3, 1908, to Catherine Burke, who was born at Middletown, June 25, 1884, daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Connell) Burke, and to this union there have been born three bright and interesting children: James, born in 1910; John Patrick, born in 1912; and Thomas, born in 1914. Mrs. Hogan's brother, Thomas Burke, fought during the recent great war as a member of the 322d Field Artillery, and had an excellent record. She also has two sisters: Ella, the wife of C. DeRyan, of Hamilton; and Margaret, Mrs. Claude Medford, of Cincinnati. Mrs. Hogan's mother died in 1914 and was followed to the grave by her father two years later. Mr. and Mrs. Hogan are devout Catholics and members of Holy Trinity congregation. They reside in a pretty home on Young street, which was purchased not long after their marriage, and in which they are fond of entertaining

their numerous friends. As a fraternalist, Mr. Hogan is an interested and active member of the local lodges of the Knights of Columbus, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose. Mrs. Hogan is the possessor of a beautiful voice and sang in public when she was a mere girl. The children have inherited the talents of their mother.

George H. Holbrock. In a single room on the present site of the Hotel Howell, at Hamilton, there was founded February 1, 1888, a modest but ambitious dry goods business. The personnel of the firm whose foresight and good judgment led them to choose Hamilton as the scene of their activities, included two brothers, George H. and William G. Holbrock, who had previously had some small experience as merchants. From this unassuming beginning has been developed the great business enterprise known as Holbrock Brothers, now the leading dry goods establishment of Hamilton and one of the most prominent of the city's business institutions. George H. Holbrock, senior member of the firm, was born February 15, 1865, at Hamilton, a son of John H. and Mary Ann (Schumacher) Holbrock, early settlers of Hamilton. The father, a shoemaker by trade, arrived from the East at Cincinnati in 1847 and in 1854 came to Hamilton, where, two years later, he established himself in the boot and shoe business at No. 112 South Third street. He became one of Hamilton's highly respected citizens and honored business men, and continued to be identified with the same business until his retirement, and both he and Mrs. Holbrock are now deceased. They were the parents of five children, of whom three survive: George H., of this notice; Mary, the wife of Henry Segers, living at Hamilton; and John J., who carries on the shoe business founded by his father, at the same address. George H. Holbrock attended the parochial school of St. Stephen's Church, and prepared himself for a commercial career by a course at Nichols Business college, where he was a student three years. He entered upon his career in the same line as that which he now follows, dry goods, being apprenticed to William O. Shank for five years. Next, he became connected with the Alms-Doepke company, of Cincinnati, where he remained four years, with varying degrees of success. Returning to Hamilton, he embarked in business, February 1, 1888, with his brother, William G., under the firm style of Holbrock Brothers. As previously noted, the first store of this concern was located on the present site of the Hotel Howell, but after three years the store was moved to more desirable quarters in the old Riley block, where they continued to occupy one room. The chief capital of the concern at the time of its founding had been the ambition and inherent energy of its members, but as time passed they were able to accumulate further resources, and when an increase in business warranted were able to take over the room adjoining, which had been formerly occupied by Mrs. Sue Lorentz, a milliner. Business continued to be prosperous, more stock was added, and as a result more space was needed, and the brothers secured the corner room, which had been occupied by Ike Hirsch. Following this they took the rear room, now occupied by the Postal Telegraph company, and this proved to be sufficient

for the firm's needs until 1907. By that time the business was cramped for room and needed larger quarters, accordingly they moved into the Mehrum building. It was not long thereafter that disaster occurred in the form of a serious conflagration which destroyed the building and its contents, but within a remarkably short time the structure had been rebuilt by the enterprising brothers, on a larger scale, and business was being done with a greatly augmented line of goods. Further loss was sustained by the company in the flood of 1913, but the business has gone forward steadily and is now accounted the leader in its line, with a complete and up-to-date stock in every detail of every department. The business at Hamilton employs in the neighborhood of fifty-five people, in addition to which it maintains a branch store at Middletown, known as the Middletown Dry Goods company. Mr. Holbrock has been the guiding spirit in bringing his firm to the forefront in the fierce competition which has agitated Hamilton's trade circles, has had the courage to grasp opportunities and the foresight to recognize these opportunities as they have come, and has been able to make the most of them with a clear, cool head. However, he suffered an irreparable loss in the death of his brother, William G. Holbrock, which occurred July 7, 1914, the younger man having been a power of inspiration, and an energetic, clear-headed, astute man of business, whose judgment was keen and whose foresight was rare in its accuracy. Mr. Holbrock is a valued and active member of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants' association. He has contributed liberally to all war causes, and has interested himself in many ways in the welfare of the community and its people. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Knights of Columbus. June 20, 1902, Mr. Holbrock married Miss Clara C. Beck, a daughter of Charles Beck, formerly a member of the Butler county board of commissioners, and to this union there have been born two children: Gregory, born in 1907, now attending St. Stephen's parochial school; and Dorothy, born in 1909, attending Notre Dame Academy. The family resides at No. 801 High street and belongs to St. Stephen's Catholic church. At his death, William G. Holbrock left three children: Arnold, Loraine and Adrian. Arnold, who succeeded to his father's interests in the business, was in service in France with the 319th Infantry, and was singularly honored. He was one out of twenty men chosen from his entire regiment who were accorded the privilege of attending a university in France, which school was the conception of the leaders of the American Expeditionary Forces as an educational institution for its officers and enlisted men. This school had a faculty consisting of some of the foremost educators in the world, and under these capable instructors Arnold Holbrock took a course in business administration. The members of this school were granted week-end passes to Dijon, the second city in France in progressiveness, with the opportunity of visiting other large cities, and young Holbrock made the most of this opportunity by studying retail business methods in France with the idea of obtaining a broader view. He is one of the energetic and

capable young business men of Hamilton. Adrian Holbrock is a graduate of Hamilton high school and Loraine is a graduate of Notre Dame college.

John J. Holbrock. In the boot and shoe establishment now conducted by John J. Holbrock, at Hamilton, Ohio, there is found an establishment that has handed down its policy and traditions from father to son and which has been located at Hamilton for a period of sixty-three years. During this time the methods under which it has been conducted and the principles which have guided its operation have been of a character to gain and hold friends and patrons and the same high quality of workmanship and service still maintain that did when the honored founder of this business first threw open the doors of his modest establishment and solicited the custom of the little town in which he was a new arrival. John J. Holbrock was born November 25, 1860, at Hamilton, a son of John H. and Mary Ann (Schumacher) Holbrock, early settlers of Butler county, where they were destined to become highly respected and well-to-do people. John H. Holbrock had arrived at Cincinnati in 1847, and seven years later pushed on to the little town of Hamilton, where he thought he saw better opportunities for a man of small capital, and where he felt that he could grow up with the community and develop himself with its development. He was in the village two years before he established himself in business as the proprietor of a small boot and shoe store, this being located at No. 112 South Third street. While additions have been made and more space taken in, the location has always remained the same, and the establishment has come to be looked upon as a landmark. Mr. Holbrock the elder, was content to follow this line of business throughout his life, and, aside from his home, few other interests ever attracted him. He did not care for public life, although a man of keen intelligence and thoroughly informed as to the leading questions of the day. When he passed away there was lost to Hamilton a good citizen who had been honest and honorable in all his dealings and who had contributed to its commercial upbuilding a substantial and reliable business house. He and his wife were the parents of five children, three of whom survive, as follows: George H., one of Hamilton's leading dry goods merchants, a sketch of whose career will be found on another page of this work; Mary, who is the wife of Henry Segers, a cigarmaker of Hamilton; and John J., of this notice. John J. Holbrock received ordinary educational advantages in his youth, as a student at St. Stephen's parochial school, and when it came to a choice of vocations allied himself to the business which his father had always followed. Under the elder man's skilled and kindly preceptorship he learned the shoemaker's trade in all its details and particulars, and was later rewarded for his industry and energy by being taken into partnership. When his father in his declining years retired from active affairs, John J. Holbrock purchased the business from him, thus succeeding to the ownership, which he has never relinquished. The little establishment founded so many years ago has developed into an enterprise of pretentious proportions, taking in two store fronts, at 110 and 112 South Third street, and carrying a full line of up-to-

date footwear, tastefully arranged, honestly presented and properly priced. Mr. Holbrock is a business man of some ability, and has been assisted in making a success of his efforts by his unfailing courtesy and obligingness. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and several church societies. He married Rosa Hepting, daughter of Matthew and Rosa Hepting, early settlers of Middletown, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Holbrock reside in their pleasant and attractive home at No. 137 North Front street, which was built by Mr. Holbrock.

William L. Hollenbaugh, one of the very successful general farmers of Madison township, has long been regarded as an excellent representative of the best class of agriculturists of Butler county, but was for some years equally prominent as an educator, and is a very well informed man. He was born at Farmersville, Ohio, November 22, 1864, a son of William and Caroline (Sheets) Hollenbaugh. William Hollenbaugh was born in Schuylkill county, Pa., a son of Michael Hollenbaugh, also natives of Schuylkill county, Pa., who died at Pine Grove, Pa., married Elizabeth Cook, who was brought to Farmersville at the age of eighteen years, and there died. Michael Hollenbaugh and his wife had the following children: Daniel, William, John, Emerel, Kate, Sophia and Lydia. Of the above named children, William Hollenbaugh, the father of William L. Hollenbaugh received but few educational advantages, his attendance at school being limited to thirteen days at an English speaking school, and three months at one taught in German, but he always sought knowledge from books, and accumulated what was then considered a very large library. He remained at home until his marriage, learning the shoemaking trade and he also learned to make pumps, and manufactured quite a number by hand. Late in life, he acquired a small farm on Twin creek, where he died in 1900, aged eighty-four years, his wife passing away in 1893, aged sixty-nine years. They both belonged to the Lutheran church. The children born to them were as follows: Daniel, a self-made man, is now a retired farmer of Farmersville, Ohio; Priscilla, who died in 1884, was Mrs. Levi Stoneroad; Joseph, who is a farmer of Whitley county, Ind.; Susan, who is Mrs. John Brandenburg, lives near West Elkton, Ohio; Ella, who is Mrs. Charles Stanton, lives at Mercersburg, Ohio; William L., whose name heads this review; J. F., who is a farmer of Preble county, Ohio, and two children who died in infancy. Caroline (Sheets) Hollenbaugh, the mother of William L. Hollenbaugh, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, a daughter of Jacob Sheets, who was born at Lebanon, Pa., but came with his wife, also a native of Lebanon, to Montgomery county, Ohio, at an early day, and located at Farmersville, where he operated a farm and kept a blacksmith shop. Both are now deceased, he passing away in 1870. After the death of his first wife, he was married (second) to a Miss Long. The children of Jacob Sheets were as follows: Henry, Solomon, William, John, Samuel, David, Amos, Caroline, Susan, Maria, Lizzie, Catherine, Lydia, and four who died in childhood. William L. Hollenbaugh attended the schools of his native township, he being in the Shafer district, and then he spent sixty weeks

in the Ashland school, and one term at the Lebanon school. Entering the educational field, Mr. Hollenbaugh taught for three years in the schools of Jackson township; two years in the Shafer district; one year at the Wegley school; four years at the Hetzler school, all in Montgomery county. He then taught one year in the Judy district in Butler county; was in the Stover district for one year, and he then rented land near Farmersville, and conducted it for three years, when he bought sixty-eight and one-half acres of land in Madison township, known as the John Sinkey place. Since taking possession of this farm, Mr. Hollenbaugh has made many improvements, spending upward of $3,000 upon them, and has one of the best farms in his township. Here he raises general mixed crops and hogs, and has been more than usually successful, for he understands his work and likes his calling. October 14, 1894, Mr. Hollenbaugh was united in marriage with Emma Zimmerman, born near Germantown, Ohio, a daughter of Benjamin Zimmerman. He married a Miss Barks, and they located on a farm near Germantown, and lived on that place for thirty-four years, when Mrs. Zimmerman died, and Mr. Zimmerman retired, moving to Germantown in 1889, since which time he has not been actively engaged in any calling. Mr. and Mrs. Hollenbaugh became the parents of children as follows: Mabel, who is living at home; and Faye, who is in her second year at the Middletown High school. In his political sentiments, Mr. Hollenbaugh is a Democrat, and he served for two terms as a trustee of Madison township. Ever since locating here, he has taken an active and intelligent interest in township affairs, and is rightly considered one of the leading men of his community. Both he and Mrs. Hollenbaugh are consistent and valued members of the United Brethren church of Pleasant Ridge. Having always lived up to what he believed was right, Mr. Hollenbaugh has gained the confidence and respect of his associates, and his success in farming has proved that his methods are excellent ones, so that his advice is often sought upon many subjects, and generally taken, for it is sound and reliable.

Hollmeyer Brothers. For more than a half a century there has existed at Oxford, Ohio, a business which has been conducted under a policy of fair and honorable dealing, and which, working upon such a principle, has secured and held the confidence and patronage of the buying public. This business, known as Hollmeyer Brothers, dealers in all kinds of fresh and salt meats, fish, oysters, game and poultry, is now owned and conducted by Henry F. J. and Charles W. Hollmeyer, brothers. This business was started by their father, the late Henry F. Hollmeyer, who was one of Oxford's early business men and a man universally esteemed and respected. Henry F. Hollmeyer was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1839, and was a twenty-year-old youth when he emigrated alone to the United States and located in Cincinnati. In his native country he had been employed on a large stock farm, but on his arrival here, having no means wherewith to back him, had to accept such employment as he could get, at first being a common laborer. Later he came to Oxford, where his knowledge of stock secured him employment at the old

Cone house, where he was in charge of the stage horses, and then embarked in the meat business. He married Sophia Weikman, who was born in Germany. About this time Mr. Hollmeyer's career was interrupted by the outbreak of the Civil war and he enlisted in the 108th Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he fought three years, receiving wounds in the arm and leg at the battle of Chickamauga. With a splendid record for faithfulness and gallantry, he returned to Oxford and resumed the meat business, with which he was connected the remainder of his life. He was the possessor of an excellent business and the owner of a valuable farm property. When he died, in 1900, his community lost one of its able business men and upright and public-spirited citizens. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics was a staunch Democrat. He was first a member of the Lutheran church at Hamilton and later of the Presbyterian church at Oxford, of which latter his widow, who resides on the old place at the age of eighty-three years, is still a faithful member. They had the following children: Annie, who married and is deceased; Lewis, in the meat business at Muncie, Ind., who married Amanda Carpenter; Alice, the wife of Lewis Shirts, of Muncie; Minnie, deceased; Julia, who died aged three years; Gus, who is in the meat business at Muncie with his brother, Lewis; William, deceased; Dora, who died at the age of nineteen years; Henry F. J., who is single; Charles W., who was married in 1903 to Minnie Halter, of Oxford, and has four children, Gertrude, Charles W., jr., Harry and Edwin; and Sophia, deceased, who married Rolla Price. All of the children received the advantages of the public schools of Oxford, and Henry F. J. and Charles W. Hollmeyer remained at home and learned the meat business with their father, whose associates they eventually became. At the time of his retirement, they took over the business, which has since been known as Hollmeyer Brothers, and which enjoys an excellent patronage, not only among the people of Oxford, but all over the surrounding countryside. The brothers are also dealers in cattle and are the owners of a valuable farm property. They stand high in public esteem and have numerous friends, and both are Democrats and members of the Presbyterian church at Oxford.

Rev. S. K. Holtsinger. Where eminent abilities and unblemished integrity, combined with unimpeachable virtue, derivable from the daily practice of religion and piety, contribute to adorn the character of an individual, then it is most proper to be prominently set forth as an example to those who would make themselves useful to the rest of mankind. In the life of the late Rev. S. K. Holtsinger there was presented a lesson of zeal, religious fervor and unselfish service that should be beneficial to the youths of any community. This reverend gentleman, who for over thirty years ministered to the spiritual wants of the people of Sharonville and nearby communities in Butler county, was born at Greeneville, Greene county, Tenn., December 22, 1839, a son of Rev. John P. and Nackey (Roberts) Holtsinger, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Maryland. The father, who was a minister of the Presby-

terian church, was chaplain of Company F, 1st Tennessee Cavalry, and served with that command in the Union army throughout the period of the Civil war. A monument to his memory now stands at Greeneville. S. K. Holtsinger received his early education in the public schools of Greeneville, following which he attended Ewing and Jefferson college, of Tennessee, and successfully passed his theological examinations and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. About that time his career was interrupted by the Civil war, in which he and his brother Richard enlisted with their father. When the war broke out the Holtsingers were living in Greeneville, Tenn. They were possessed of very strong Union sentiments and were determined to become Union soldiers. This had to be done secretly as they were surrounded by Confederate soldiers. The Holtsingers in company with about a dozen others left home by night, traveling nights and hiding during the day. For two weeks they lived underground, their food being brought to them at night by a colored man. After many hardships they reached Ohio and at Camp Dennison Rev. J. P. Holtsinger entered the Union army as chaplain and his son, Rev. S. K. Holtsinger, as a private. A younger brother, seventeen years of age, ran away from home and joined the Union army as wagon master, and after the battle of Bulls Gap was reported missing and was never heard from again. After the war, our subject came to Hamilton, Ohio, where, while awaiting a call, he worked for six months at the Niles Tool works. His first charge was the old Presbyterian church at Sharonville, and there he labored for some thirty years, becoming greatly beloved by his parishioners and also organizing and building churches at West Chester, Bethany and Gano. In 1895 failing health caused him to resign his charge and go to California, where he remained three years, during which time he built a church of the Presbyterian faith at Del Monte. Returning to Butler county in 1898, he took up his residence at West Chester, and here his death occurred October 10, 1907. Reverend Holtsinger was married in 1865 to Margaret O., daughter of Decatur and Narcissa Housel, and to this union there were born two children: John Paul, and Nackey E., the wife of E. W. Scripps. Mrs. Holtsinger, who now has eight great-grandchildren, survives her husband and is a resident of West Chester, where she has numerous acquaintances and friends, being a most intelligent woman and one charming to meet. She was born at Franklin, Ohio, the birthplace of her parents who died when she was a small child. Mr. and Mrs. Scripps have had six children: John Paul, who died at the age of twenty-six years, who married a Miss McRea and left a son,—John Paul; James G., head of the Scripps Newspaper Syndicate of America, who married Josephine Steadman and has four children,—Edward Willis, Josephine Louise, James G. and Ellen Browning; Edward Willis, who died at the age of eight years; Dolla Blair; Nackey Elizabeth, who married Thomas M. Meanley and has two children,—Thomas M. and Gerald Blair; and Robert P., who married Margaret Culbertson and has one child,—Robert Payne. Reverend Holtsinger was cast in a finer, gentler mold than many men, and yet he had also those

JOHN A. HOLZBERGER

manly qualities that should be found in every man, be he statesman or businessman or clergyman. His sense of the fit and beautiful was keen, and his ideas of honor, integrity and duty were exceptionally strong. Mentally, he had both depth and breadth, and he was never afraid of new ideas, was receptive to any new truth, but had the faith that assured him the foundations of God stand unshaken amid man's changing opinions and speculations. As a minister of the Gospel he always emphasized the spiritual rather than the ecclesiastical or dogmatic side of the church and the personal life, and was uniformly beloved as preacher, teacher, pastor and man. To his sacred and honored calling he devoted all of himself, and most splendidly did he fulfill his vows.

John A. Holzberger. Prominent on the list of names of those who have contributed to the civic betterment of Hamilton by faithful, conscientious and constructive public service, is found that of John A. Holzberger. Mr. Holzberger has worked his way up from the ranks, and his career is one that is eminently worthy of emulation, as it indicates the high awards in position attainable through properly directing one's activities both as to personal affairs and in the larger life of the community in general. Ex-Mayor Holzberger was born October 8, 1871, at Hamilton, a son of John and Catherine (Eiler) Holzberger, who were early settlers of Butler county. The father, who received an ordinary education, learned the trade of blacksmith and followed it until his death at the age of thirty-eight years, but the mother still survives. There were nine children in the family, as follows: Anna, the wife of Charles Brannon, of Hamilton, with four children; Sallie, the wife of Daniel Wheaton, of Cincinnati; Mary, the wife of John Held of Hamilton, with four children; Elizabeth, deceased, who married William Seiffert and had one child, also deceased; Minnie, who married Louis Saurber of Hamilton, and had one child, now deceased; Fred, of Akron, who married Mary Stephens, and has two children; William and Peter, who are deceased; and subject. John A. Holzberger received his education in the country schools, and owing to the early death of his father it was necessary that he begin early to assist in his own support. Accordingly for several years he was variously engaged at whatever honest employment presented itself, but eventually he realized that such methods were not enabling him to make any definite progress, and in 1891 he applied himself to learning the plumbing business, under John P. Henn. Having mastered his trade, he worked thereat until April, 1898, at which time he received recognition by the appointment to the position of superintendent of streets and sewers of Hamilton. This appointment nearly cost him his life, for it was while he was working in his official capacity that in the flood of 1898 he was trapped and imprisoned in the sewer pumping station, where he was only rescued after forty-eight hours without food or drink. At the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Holzberger purchased a cafe from E. H. Heckerman, on Front and High streets, and conducted it for twelve and one-half years. During the time he was thus engaged as a business man, he was elected councilman-at-

large, a position in which he again gave splendid and satisfactory service. After two terms in this capacity, Mr. Holzberger became service director by appointment of ex-Mayor Straub, and was acting in this position when the great flood of 1913 called forth his best services in behalf of the stricken city. In 1915 he disposed of his cafe by sale, and in that same year was elected mayor of Hamilton on the Democratic ticket. His two years of administration were characterized by good service and numerous civic improvements were made during his regime. When he retired from the mayoralty he again went into the plumbing business, this time in partnership with his former preceptor, John P. Henn, their establishment being located on Market street, near Second. Mr. Holzberger married Miss Anna Zoller, daughter of Michael and Barbara Zoller, early settlers of Hamilton, and to this union there have been born four children: Earl and John, who are deceased; Walter, aged twenty years, a graduate of Hamilton high school and now in his second year at Cornell college, Ithaca, N. Y., where he is studying chemistry; and Glenn, now eighteen years of age and in the third year of high school at Hamilton. Mr. Holzberger is a member of the Elks, the Knights of Pythias, Eagles, Moose, Odd Fellows and Smoking Casino, and is universally popular.

Harry J. Honerlaw. In many ways Union township is a prosperous agricultural section of Butler county, one reason being that intelligent men of practical farm experience are here bending every effort to add to production. Such substantial farmers and right-thinking men as Harry J. Honerlaw are men who pay close attention to their business and the results that follow are not only profitable to themselves but also to the country at large. Harry J. Honerlaw was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, January 21, 1888, son of Henry and Mary Honerlaw, and grandson of Joseph Honerlaw, who was the founder of the family in Ohio. Mr. Honerlaw attended the public schools in Hamilton county, after which he assisted his father on the home farm until his own marriage, then, for a time operated a farm of 100 acres, moving then to the Baker farm in Union township, Butler county. One year later he came to the Howard farm, which contains 122 acres, and this he has operated very profitably for five years, giving attention to both crop and stock raising. In 1913, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Sophia Wintrong, and they have two children, Robert and Daniel. Mr. and Mrs. Honerlaw belong to the Catholic church. In politics he is a Democrat.

Herman Honerlaw, who is a representative citizen and very substantial agriculturist of Butler county, belongs to an old Ohio family that was established in Hamilton county by his grandfather, Joseph Honerlaw, who came to Cincinnati from Germany, when twenty-two years old. Herman Honerlaw was born at Reading, Hamilton county, January 24, 1883, son of Henry and Mary Honerlaw, who had five more children, namely: Joseph, Kate, Harry, Adelaide and Allie. Both parents were born in Hamilton county and during his entire active life the father was a farmer there or in Butler county. He now lives retired at Deer Park. Herman Honerlaw ob-

tained his education in the public schools of Hamilton county, after which until 1911, he was associated with his father in farming. He then started out for himself on a small scale, for one year engaging in the business of hauling hay. In 1912 he moved on the McCauley farm of 204 acres, which he had under rental until 1917, when he bought the property. Of this large estate he has 120 acres under a fine state of cultivation, using the remainder of the land for pasturage, as he is taking a great deal of interest in raising high grade stock, and feeds fifty head of hogs yearly. He has placed substantial improvements on his property and conducts all his industries according to modern methods. Mr. Honerlaw is considered one of the most enterprising young farmers of this section. April 26, 1911, he married Mary, daughter of Henry and Caroline Wolbkenberg, and they have four children, namely: Albion, Elmer, William and Mildred. Mr. Honerlaw and his family are members of the Roman Catholic church. He is an independent voter and has never accepted any public office except membership on the school board, but as a private citizen his influence is always lent to the support of law and order.

Walter Horning, a farmer, of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, was born in Bavaria, November 5, 1850, a son of Louis and Caroline Weise, also of Bavaria, who came to America in 1850, located in Hanover township, Butler county, Ohio. For four years the father worked in the saw mill of George Tobias, and then farmed for the same person for a number of years. He died in 1888 at the age of fifty-nine years; the wife dying in 1909, aged eighty years. They were members of the St. John's Lutheran church at Hamilton. There were nine children in the family: Walter, subject of this sketch; Michael, a gardener at Lindenwald, Ohio, married Annie Henning; Catharine, Mrs. Philip Weiland, of Hamilton; George, farmer in Clermont county, Ohio; Henry, farmer in Kansas; Annie, Mrs. John Schwab, of Reily township, Butler county; Paulina, unmarried, in Fairfield township; Jacob, farmer, of Fairfield township; Emma, Mrs. Charles Funstine, of Fairfield township. Walter Horning, subject of this sketch, attended the public schools and in addition was a student in the Lebanon Normal school for two years. After leaving school, he remained at home up to his marriage in 1879 to Mary Rahmes, daughter of John and Barbara (Fichter) Rahmes. For seven years following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Horning lived in Port Union, Ohio, and then went to LaBette county, Kans., where they remained for some time when they concluded to return to Fairfield township, and after a twenty-two years' tenancy, purchased the old homestead —the John Rahmes place—which continues to be their home. Mr. Horning has always been a farmer, and has achieved considerable success in this line. At present he is conducting a general farming and mixed stock business. To Mr. and Mrs. Horning eight children have been born: Annie, Mrs. Eugene Rau, lives in Cincinnati, has two children, Norbert and Stanley Walter; Lenora, wife of Stephen Jackson, a farmer of Fairfield township, they have one son, Paul Stephen; John, conducts a confectionery in Cincinnati; Carl, a

farmer of Fairfield township, married Clara Cortes and have a son, Carl Herbert; Abelena, Mrs. Albert Rhomer, of Fairfield township; Emma, at home; Paul. Herbert and Otto George (twins),—Otto married Freda Schmitt, one child, Lillian. Mr. Horning has always been a Democrat, and is a member of the Emanuel Lutheran church of Hamilton.

Albert Hossfeld. A business which, established in a small way, has been developed to large proportions under the favoring conditions offered by Hamilton for advancement, as well as through the good judgment, sterling ability and sound business sense of its owners, is the C. Hossfeld & Son company, a concern now nearly fifty-five years old. The present directing head of this large business is Albert Hossfeld, who was born at Hamilton, a son of Charles and Ida (Muller) Hossfeld. His parents were born in Germany, where they were reared and educated, and were married there September 13, 1864, the father at that time being twenty-six years of age and the mother twenty-two. The day following that of their marriage they started for the United States, and first located at Indianapolis, where they remained one year. Coming then to Hamilton, they established a combined grocery and liquor business, but later the grocery was abandoned, and the father continued in charge of the liquor business until his death, March 7, 1906. Charles Hossfeld was content to devote himself to his business and his home and never mixed in public affairs. He and his wife were the parents of seven daughters and one son, as follows: Minnie, who has never married; Albert; Anna, the wife of Otto Metzner of Cincinnati, with one child; Clara, who died at the age of twenty-nine years; Gusta; Eda, a resident of Hamilton; Lina, also of this city; and Lotta, the wife of Fred Mueller, the well known Hamilton architect, with two children. After completing his studies in the Hamilton graded schools, Albert Hossfeld entered the business with his father, for whom he worked until 1894, at that time being accepted as a partner in the business. In 1904 the firm was incorporated as the C. Hossfeld & Son Co., and since the death of the father, in 1906, the same name has been retained, it being well known in trade circles as that of a strictly reliable and trustworthy concern. In 1907, under the direction of Albert Hossfeld, the large building on Second street, between Court and Ludlow streets, of which the Hamilton hotel is a part, was erected, and is still owned by the corporation. Mr. Hossfeld is one of Hamilton's aggressive, progressive and alert business men, who has impressed his abilities upon his associates in a way that has made them place the utmost confidence in his judgment, foresight and acumen. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Elks and United Commercial Travelers. He is unmarried and lives with his mother at her home on South D street.

Jacob Hossfeld. Among the citizens of Reily township none is more deserving of representation in this volume than Jacob Hossfeld, who has for years been connected with the hotel and agricultural interests of this section of Butler county and who has, through well-directed efforts, gained a handsome competence that

numbers him among the substantial men of his township. Keen discrimination, unflagging industry and resolute purpose are numbered among his salient characteristics and thus he has won that prosperity which is the merited reward of honest effort. Mr. Hossfeld was born at Lindenwald, Butler county, Ohio, December 9, 1860, a son of Fred and Mary (Bishop) Hossfeld, the former born in Germany and the latter in Butler county, Ohio. Fred Hossfeld came to the United States with his stepfather and the remainder of the family later joined them and settled in New York, near Niagara Falls. Later they came to Ohio and settled at Hamilton, and it was here that Fred Hossfeld met and married Mary Bishop, whose father, John Bishop, had come from Germany and took up a farm below Hamilton. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hossfeld started housekeeping at Hamilton, where the father followed the trade of millwright, but later moved to Reily and embarked in the hotel business, but eventually retired from active affairs. Mr. Hossfeld died at Reily, following which his widow removed to Hamilton and there passed away. They were honored and highly esteemed people of the various communities in which they resided, and were the parents of three children: Jacob, of this review; and Charles and Fred R., both deceased. Jacob Hossfeld was educated in the public schools of Reily and when he left school was for a time employed as a farmhand. Subsequently he engaged in the hotel business there, which he continued for five years after his marriage, and about 1905 removed to his present farm, the old Hossfeld place in Reily township, which he later inherited from his father's estate. This property, consisting of 300 acres, he has brought to a high state of cultivation and through his good management and industry has brought about results that stamp him as one of the progressive and skilled agriculturists of his county. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he has done much to advance the interests of his township and county and justly merits the esteem in which he is uniformly held by his fellowmen. He and the members of his family belong to the Presbyterian church. In 1898 Mr. Hossfeld was united in marriage with Mrs. May (Fields) Lemon, widow of William Lemon, of Trenton, who had two children by her first marriage: Hazel, who married Karl Schwab, resides on her parents' farm and is an accomplished reader and elocutionist; and Elizabeth, who married Paul King, a farmer near Oxford and has four children,—Jack, Mary Ellen, William and Patricia Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Hossfeld have had one child: Marie, who resides at home and is a young lady of much musical talent. Mrs. Hossfeld is a daughter of Pletus and Harriet (Hurd) Fields, the former of whom was born at Cleveland, Ohio, and as a youth went to Allegany, N. Y., with his parents, his marriage to Miss Hurd taking place at Portage, Allegany county, N. Y. He was a minister and traveling evangelist and spent the greater part of his ministry in Ohio. During the Civil war he served as chaplain, with the rank of captain, in the 39th Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. He and his wife were the parents of five children: Mary and George, who are deceased; Floyd; Frank; and May, who

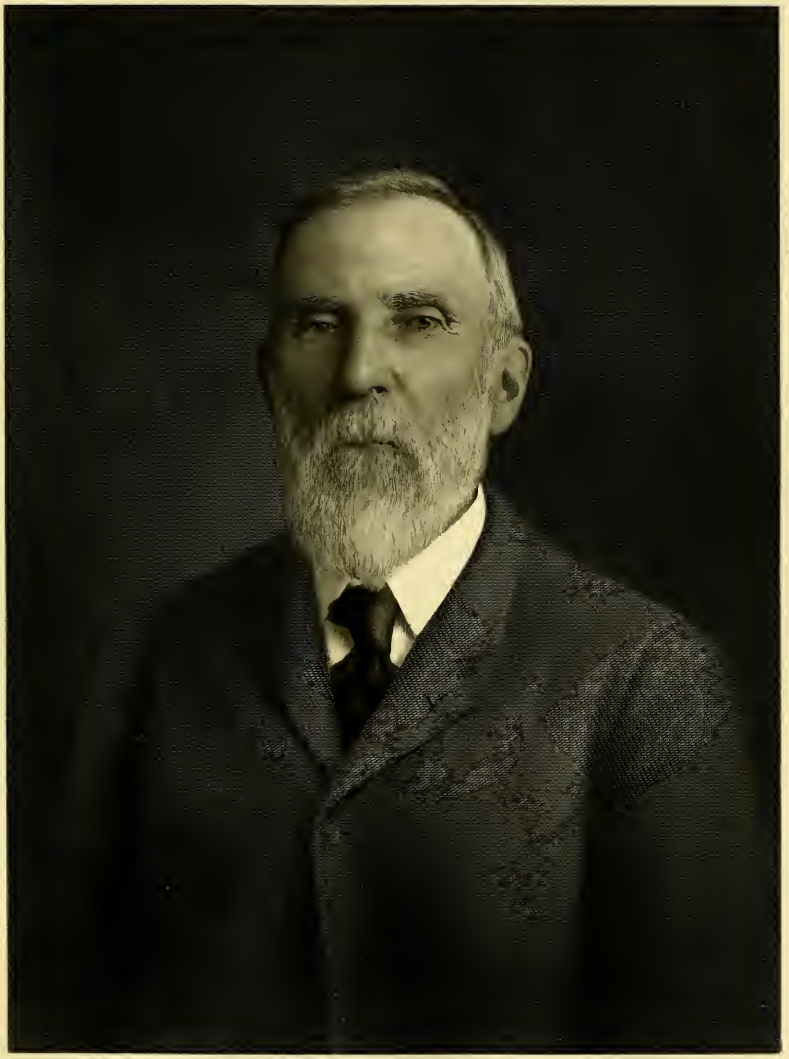
became Mrs. Hossfeld. Of these children, George Fields was also a soldier and served in the same regiment as did his father. Pletus Fields also was a farmer, but was best known as a revivalist and debater. He was originally a Methodist, but later joined the Christian church, and in 1866 went to Boone county, Ill., where he built two churches, one at Capron and the other at Bonus. He was of noted French descent, having descended from the De La Feld family of the tenth century. His great-grandfather, Pardon Field, was a Revolutionary soldier; his record can be found on page 642 of the soldiers at Washington, this making Mrs. Paul King, Mrs. Karl Schwab and Miss Marie Hossfeld, Daughters of American Revolution. His wife, who was of English descent, belonged to the distinguished Hurd family, while her mother was a Burlingame and the latter on her maternal side was a Hale, descended from Sir Mathew Hale, one time chief justice of England. Aaron Hale, an American descendant, was a captain of American troops during the Revolutionary war.

Oliver H. House. One of the important divisions of the plant of the American Rolling Mill, at Middletown, is that known as the masonry department, the work of which is exacting and calls for directing ability of more than ordinary calibre. The supervision of the work of this department is at present in safe hands, being in charge of Oliver H. House, who throughout a long and active career has been identified with work similar to that which attaches to his present position. He has been identified with his present concern seven years, has formed enduring relations both with those in charge of the business and with his associates at the plant. Mr. House was born in Wheeling, W. Va., March 26, 1865, a son of John William and Margaret (Rodus) (Horton) House, the former a native of Lancaster, Pa., and the latter of Minersville, that state, and both now deceased. John W. House was a brick manufacturer by vocation, and was well known to the trade of the Keystone state as a man of integrity and sound business sagacity. There were four children in the family: Oliver H.; George L.; Nora, the wife of Ala Montgomery; and Emma, the wife of William Baughman. Mr. House's brother and sisters are all residents of Braddock, Pa. The education of Oliver H. House was secured in the public schools of his native state, following which he became associated with his father in the manufacture of brick at Braddock, Pa. Later he entered the same line of business on his own account, and in this connection came into associations that brought him in contact with the rolling mill business. In 1912 he was called to the American Rolling Mill at Middletown, to take the position of superintendent of the masonry department, a post which he has held to the present time, and in which he has discharged his duties in an entirely efficient and satisfactory manner. Mr. House was married April 5, 1888, to Gertrude Murphy, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Hambelton) Murphy, of Morgantown, W. Va., and to this union there have been born three children: Maude, who is the wife of Thomas Needham, of Middletown; Harry B., contractor and builder, of Whitaker, Pa., and Oliver H., jr., who is attending school at Middletown. Mrs.

House's parents are deceased. She and her husband are members of the Methodist church, and Mrs. House has been active in its work. Not long after their arrival at Middletown, Mr. House purchased an attractive home on Linden avenue, where the well-kept lawn and other features give evidence of his sense of the artistic and his pride in the appearance of his property. Mr. House is a Republican, but not a politician, and is fraternally affilated with the local lodges of the Masons, the Woodmen of the World and the Order of Elks. The family was well represented in the military during the recent great war, as in addition to the two nephews of Mr. House, George and Ralph House, of Braddock, Pa., there were three cousins of Mrs. House in the service, Charles, Joseph and Floyd Hunt, of Ashland, Ky.

Joseph C. Hubner, retired construction engineer, was born in Flushing, L. I., son of John and Clara Hubner. He received his education in the public schools of Flushing and at the Wright Polytechnic institute, of Brooklyn, N. Y., specializing in mechanical and hydraulic engineering. From 1890 to 1896, he engaged his services to the Westinghouse company, in the installation of electric power plants throughout the country. Early in his career, a very important task was committed to his supervision—the installation of a power plant at Niagara Falls and the success of the undertaking is in itself sufficient testimonial as to the thorough mastery of his profession by Mr. Hubner. Subsequent to this, he built the plant for the Coke-Otto company, at Hamilton, Ohio, and was also construction engineer of the Zenith Furnace company, of Duluth, Minn., vice-president and general manager of the Lake Superior Dredging company. He did a large amount of Government river and harbor work, among the most important of which was: Constructed the channel through Galveston to Texas City; Hanna Coal Dock and Y. & L. coal dock at Duluth; channel work at Duluth; Superior entry at Duluth; channel work at Houghton; channel work at Sault Ste Marie; construction work at Sandusky, Ohio; tunnel and channel at Erie, Pa.; work on Lake St. Clair Channel; Georgia Bay Channel work. In 1889, Mr. Hubner was married to Louise M. Reiss, who through the years has proved a real companion and a true helpmate. In 1896 Mr. G. F. Reiss and J. C. Hubner purchased a country residence in Fairfield township, and Mr. Hubner makes his home there. On this estate there has recently been completed the construction of a Dutch Colonial residence, a beautiful innovation in this style of architecture. It is complete in every particular and is undoubtedly one of the most handsome and attractive homes in Butler county. Mr. Hubner has had an active life, replete with responsibility and hard work, but by his determination and intense energy, he achieved success to which he was justly entitled, and through the years of his retirement he will retain the esteem and good-will of his almost numberless friends. A genial, whole-souled man, noted for his loyalty to his former employees, many of whom he has helped to a competency, his chief interest now is in their welfare, and information of their success and achievements is to him a pleasure and delight.

John J. Huffman, retired mill man and landowner in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, was born January 23, 1853, in Fairfield township, son of Tobias and Mary Huffman, who were born and raised in Virginia, and on first coming to Ohio, located in Piqua after which they moved near Mt. Pleasant, Ohio. After a residence of four years in the last-named place, they came to Fairfield township and bought seventy acres of land to which were soon added eighteen more acres, the land costing $20 an acre. The only improvements on the place were a log cabin and stable. An exceedingly small portion was cleared, and that in a very unsatisfactory manner. It was not a very encouraging outlook, but Mr. Huffman started in a small way, put in long hours, worked extremely hard and ultimately achieved the most gratifying success. He was a man widely-known and greatly respected, and an ardent Republican. Both Mr. and Mrs. Huffman were members of the Christian church, and both died on the place, he at the age of eighty-four years, and she at eighty. They had ten children, and of the family, our subject is the only one now living. One child died at the age of seven; Martha, Mrs. Thomas Huffman; Amanda, Mrs. Jacob Dittmore; Robert, farmer on Pleasant Run, never married; Solomon, farmer, married Mollie Strife; Sarah, twin of Solomon, never married; Paul, farmer, married Amy Dittmore; Israel, farmer, never married; Aaron, farmer, married Caroline Schmutsfel; John, subject of this sketch. John Huffman received his education at the Rieser school, which was the public school for the district in which the Huffman family lived. He remained at home until he had attained the age of thirty-five years, when he married Anna Springer, of Fairfield township, daughter of Peter Springer. Peter Springer and wife were natives of Germany, and on coming to this country, located in Fairfield township, and engaged in farming. They were members of the Mennonite church and very excellent people. They had five children: Joseph, deceased, a farmer, never married; Anna, Mrs. Huffman, wife of our subject; Mary, Mrs. George Rahmes, of Pleasant run, Ohio; Barbara, unmarried, lives on Pleasant run; Chris., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, lives on the home place. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Huffman moved into the handsome place which continues to be their home, a tract of eighteen acres located in Fairfield township. It was purchased and improved by Mr. Huffman solely for a home, and nothing was withheld that would add to the appearance and beauty of the place or the comfort and convenience of its occupants. To this couple three children have been born: Abram, died in infancy; Joseph, farmer, at home; Clara, Mrs. Peter Trigiser, of Venice, Ohio, has a son, Herbert. Probably few men in his vicinity are better known than is Mr. Huffman and every acquaintance is his warm friend. His long residence, his genial disposition, his successful career have impressed the community in such way that he will long be respected and remembered. Mr. Huffman has had a very active and busy life. For thirty-eight years he followed threshing and for an additional twenty-two years conducted a sawmill, neither of which callings is in the slightest way disconnected



S. K. Hughes

from very hard work. In addition to his home place Mr. Huffman owns two other very valuable tracts in Fairfield township of twenty-two and ninety-four acres respectively. He leases or rents most of his real estate holdings. Like so many true Americans, Mr. Huffman responded very heartily to the calls made for the war activities fund. Politically, he is a Republican.

Elijah and Samuel K. Hughes. The eastern part of Butler county was settled largely by people from Maryland. Among the earliest to come was Elijah Hughes. Mr. Hughes located at what is now Hughes station. He was a blacksmith by trade, and at once built a shop which he conducted for many years. He acquired a large tract of land, and reared a large family. The children were Eliza, who married Simeon Matson; Daniel, who acquired a large tract of valuable land, and was well known in Butler county as a successful farmer and stock raiser; Micajah, who assisted in organizing and was the first president of The First National bank of Hamilton, which position he held until his death; Christopher, who was very prominent in politics, and who served in the Ohio legislature; Philip, who succeeded his brother Micajah as president of The First National bank of Hamilton; Joshua, a prominent farmer and banker; and Rachel who married James Kain. Butler county has produced no family of more prominence than the Hughes family.

Daniel, the father of the subjects of this sketch, married Ann B. Kain, a daughter of Samuel Kain, a wagon maker, located at Bethany, Ohio. After his marriage Daniel Hughes settled in the southern part of Lemon township, where by industry and business ability he acquired 500 acres of the most valuable farming land in the Miami valley. Mr. Hughes engaged in raising horses and hogs upon an extensive scale. In politics, he was a Democrat, but always a true American and supporter of the Union. His success as a stockman, and his activity in public affairs, brought him a wide recognition and popularity. He died July 14, 1884, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife, who from childhood, was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, died in 1877, aged seventy-two years. Daniel Hughes and his wife became the parents of the following children: Mary Jane, who married Job Mulford; Elijah, one of the subjects of this sketch; Sarah, who died at the age of two years, and Samuel K., also one of the subjects of this sketch.

Elijah Hughes was born on the homestead of his father in Lemon township, September 9, 1835, and has always resided there. Samuel K. Hughes was also born on the family homestead, November 1, 1839. Elijah and Samuel attended the school held in the little log school house of the neighborhood, which is still standing and in use, but now as a dwelling. Some very distinguished men claim this little school as their Alma Mater. Samuel K. Hughes married Hattie Belle Boudinet of Butler county, Ohio. Mrs. Hughes was an artist of merit, using both oils and water colors, painting on china and canvas. Her husband was also interested in art, and in addition to the productions of his wife, owns a number of very valuable paintings, the work of some of the most noted artists in the country. Mrs. Hughes died several years ago, and Mr. Hughes married her

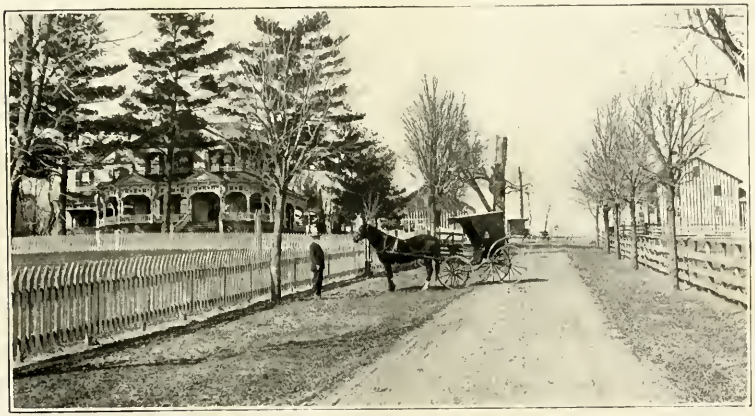
sister, Mary E. Boudinet. These ladies were the daughters of Joseph and Louisa Boudinet, natives of France and Germany respectively, who came to the United States when young, and were married in Butler county, Ohio. Mr. Boudinet died in 1901, his widow surviving him until June 17, 1902.

In March, 1877, these brothers, Elijah and Samuel K., took charge of the home farm, and have ever since operated their 550-acre farm in partnership. After taking charge of the farm they made many improvements, remodeling their residence and making it thoroughly modern. Their farm is located between Hamilton and Middletown on the Dixie highway. In addition to this home farm of 550 acres, these brothers have acquired several hundred more acres of valuable farm land. These brothers have been extensive dealers in live stock, and in addition to their stock and farming interests, own stock in various banks in Butler and other counties, and in various corporations and manufacturing industries, and have been largely interested in coal mining in Kentucky. Samuel K. Hughes has been president of The Uniontown Coal and Mining company. Both are staunch Democrats. Elijah is a man who has devoted much time and thought to public questions, reading extensively upon various subjects, and he is well posted on current events.

Samuel K. Hughes has always devoted much time and attention to public matters in spite of the fact that his own private affairs and interests were sufficient to absorb all the time and attention of any ordinary man. His public service is always rendered without hope of reward. At one time, in order to assist and elevate the agricultural interests of Bulter county, he accepted the position of president of the Butler County Agricultural Board, in which position he served for several years, devoting much time and attention to the affairs of the Butler County Fair, and thereby assisted in making the Butler County Fair one of the best known and popular of county fairs.

For many years Mr. Samuel K. Hughes has been a frequent contributor to the newspapers, especially of Cincinnati, Hamilton, Middletown and Dayton, and thereby has become one of the best known men in the Miami valley. In these writings his character is fully and clearly portrayed, and the most distinguishing characteristic is his intense and sympathetic interest in all matters which affect the well-being of his fellows. This is manifest in every page of his writings. No matter whether the subject be great or small, he considers and discusses it with the same earnestness and intensity.

That which concerns only his own neighborhood engages his earnest attention and consideration, as well as that which concerns the entire nation. Whether it is the repair of a township road in his own vicinity, or the negotiation of a Peace Treaty between nations, he is always earnest and vigorous in his style and advocacy. We use the word "advocacy" advisably, for the reason that his communications are always constructive. He is ever seeking to build up or produce something for the betterment of the public. His communications are always messages of encouragement and friendly and kindly advice. It is by reason of this characteristic that he has



RESIDENCE OF S. K. HUGHES, KYLE, O.

long been known locally, as well as in the public press, as the "Sage of LeSourdsville." In his public communications he has always been as free and earnest and vigorous in support of men as he has been of measures, when he believed them right.

Although a partisan Democrat always, yet he can show numerous letters from men of the opposition party in the highest political and administrative positions, acknowledging words of encouragement and commendation for Mr. Hughes. There are many such letters from President McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft, and from Senators Foraker, Alison and others. Mr. Hughes has always been intensely American, and he believes that our government and institutions are not only the best for us, but that they would be the best for all of our neighbors, and by reason of his advocacy of the doctrine that we should seek by all honorable means to extend the sphere of our government and institutions, he has long been called the "Great Expansionist." On one occasion he made an earnest and vigorous effort to have the Democratic State convention of Ohio adopt a resolution in favor of retaining the Philippines, but it was not done. Later the Republican State convention adopted this very resolution, and was successful before the people, and Mr. Hughes was assured by persons high in Republican councils that it was the belief of the Republican manager that the Democrats could have won that year upon such a resolution.

A very marked characteristic of Mr. Hughes' writing is that he is always in favor of extending aid where it will be beneficial to society. His suggestions and purposes in this connection have frequently attracted great attention and consideration. As an instance, some years ago he addressed a communication to the Legislature of Ohio, advocating a bill for the creation of a State Commission for the examination and care of inebriates. This communication attracted wide attention, and Mr. Hughes received words of encouragement from many competent authorities. Dr. Dan Millikin in a lengthy letter to Mr. Hughes endorsed the plan, and discussed the cause and proper treatment of drunkenness with great force and clearness. Mr. Hughes has always been an advocate of treating public questions as matters of business, and not of politics. For instance, he once suggested to congress that a commission of thirty practical men, business men, be selected to prepare a tariff law. Mr. Hughes has never cared for political preferment. On at least two occasions he was assured that he could have the nomination of his party for congress, but he preferred to remain in the ranks. So far as we know he has never held but one office, road superintendent. The roads in his neighborhood needed attention, and he accepted the job in spite of the fact that he was a very busy man with his own affairs.

What a world of good could be accomplished if citizens generally took such an interest in public matters as Mr. Hughes has. It is not only current events and conditions that engage his attention, but he frequently takes a look into the future, and at times he has written that which appeared almost prophetic. More than five years before the outbreak of the World war Mr. Hughes in a public

communication described the conditions in Europe, calling particular attention to the attitude and aims and ambitions of Germany, and declared that unless something was done to curb or circumvent Germany, that a world war would result. His proposed remedy was an alliance for the preservation and maintenance of peace. For many years Mr. Hughes has been in the habit of giving careful thought to every question of public interest, whether local or general, and when he has felt that he could say a word in support of a good cause, he has spoken throught the medium of the press.

Although the dominant note in his character is peace, friendship and good-will, yet when occasion requires, he is a vigorous and persistent fighter, and this is especially true when he considers that the rights of his neighbors or neighborhood are interfered with. As an instance, many persons will remember the fight over changing of the postoffice at LeSourdsville many years ago. For some reason the First Assistant Postmaster General issued an order changing the name of this postoffice. This change was contrary to the wishes of a great majority of the patrons of the office, and Mr. Hughes was appealed to by his neighbors to lead the fight for the restoration of the old name. This he did, and with such vigor and persistency that in spite of much opposition in the postoffice department and elsewhere, he finally succeeded in getting the old name restored. This fight attracted a great deal of attention in the postoffice department and elsewhere. The chief inspector of the postoffice department in a letter to Mr. Hughes advising him that after a great deal of work and manipulation, the postmaster general had signed an order rescinding the order of the First assistant changing the name of this postoffice, said "LeSourdsville has become to be a pretty well known place by the people of the department, because the case has attracted a good deal of attention."

We have felt impelled to write thus at length of Mr. Hughes, because we believe that his disinterested interest in and advocacy of the welfare of his fellow-men deserves recognition in a permanent form. We can say of Mr. Samuel K. Hughes what another great advocate of human rights said of himself: "The world is his country, to do good, his religion."

Frank M. Hughes. Long and prominent connection with the business, financial and agricultural interests of Butler county has made Frank M. Hughes one of the best known men of his locality, where his splendid abilities have been extended in the direction of furthering general progress and development. Mr. Hughes, who is president of the Hamilton Home Telephone company, was born on his present farm at Hughes Station, Liberty township, May 22, 1849, a son of Joshua and Mary Ann (Legg) Hughes, and a member of an old and honored family of Butler county. His paternal grandfather was Elijah Hughes, of Baltimore, Md., who, with his wife and five children drove through to this county in the early '20s in a covered wagon. His children were Daniel, Micajah, Christopher, Joshua, Eliza and Rachel, and after a journey of six weeks, he arrived in Butler county, where two more sons, Joshua and Philip, were born. Peter Gossage, a neighbor of the Hughes

FRANK M. HUGHES

family in Maryland, had come to Butler county some time previous and had purchased 160 acres of land, on which he had started to make improvements. However, at that time the Indians were numerous in this locality, and their many depredations and continued menace alarmed and discouraged Mr. Gossage, who, after deciding to return to the more civilized East, sold his property to Elijah Hughes, a man made of sterner and more courageous stuff. There was a log cabin on the place, as well as a small stable, and Mr. Hughes and his family settled down to make a permanent home, presenting a bold front to the red men and working industriously in their labors of development. While his sons worked the farm, Elijah Hughes plied his trade of blacksmith, in a little shop and forge which he had erected, and so skilled and industrious was he that he was soon controlling the business of the entire countryside. It was a rule of his never to charge for any work that he did for the early preachers, and these traveling divines would come from 100 miles around to get their horses shod at the shop of this sturdy pioneer 'smith. He put an addition on the cabin and made other improvements, and the farm continued to be his home until his death in 1852, his wife having died some time previous. All of his sons secured farms and spent their lives in Butler county. Joshua Hughes, the father of Frank M., was born on the Hughes homestead in 1822, not long after the arrival of his parents in Butler county, and his education was confined to the limited curriculum of the pioneer log schoolhouse. However, he had native intelligence, which enabled him to secure a good education as to essential things, and his inherent business ability allowed him to rise to a position of prominence and substantiality in his community. He grew to manhood on the old farm, which he purchased and on which he made improvements, and added to it until he possessed 500 acres. In addition to general farming, he was a big cattle and hog feeder, and also had some splendid horses. A public-spirited man, he was a leader in the good roads movement and assisted in other enterprises in a way that won him the confidence and friendship of people all over the county. His good business ability was shown in the organization of the First National bank at Hamilton, and this same ability was evidenced in the handling of its affairs as president, a capacity in which he served but a short time, when feeling the responsibilities of the office too great he resigned. His death occurred October 30, 1900, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife passed away August 22, 1905, when seventy-seven years of age. Mr. Hughes was a staunch Democrat, but never aspired to public office. There were two sons in the family: Frank M. and Charles Legg. Charles L. Hughes was born on the old home place, and for many years prior to his death was a farmer and extensive cattle dealer, his property being located west of Monroe. He was a staunch Democrat and a man widely known and well liked in Butler county. He married Florence Deneen, of this county, and had a daughter, Lola, now deceased, and after his death his widow married John Seward, of Hamilton. Frank M. Hughes was educated in the public schools of Liberty township, and was reared

on the old homestead, where he has always made his home. In 1870 he located one mile north of where he now resides and continued to make that his home until March, 1901, when he changed to his present abode. Under his good management the acreage of the old homestead has increased materially, and now contains 700 acres, all valuable Liberty township land. Mr. Hughes is a skilled and well-informed farmer, working along modern lines and according to scientific methods, and is also a raiser of Southdown sheep, Poland China hogs and a good grade of cattle. His financial ability has led him into important connections, and at this time he is a director of the First National bank of Hamilton and of the Monroe National bank, of which latter he was one of the organizers. He also assisted in the organization of the Hamilton Home Telephone company, one of Butler county's most valuable public utilities, and has been president of the company since its inception. Also, he was one of the organizers of the Jersey Dell Milk company, at Hughes Station, organized in April, 1917, this being a mutual compay, with the following officers: Frank M. Hughes, president; Charles Tyron, vice-president; Hon. Rob Billingslea, secretary; Austin Smith, treasurer; and William Lucius, manager. The company is capitalized at $25,000, and is located at Hughes Station, which station was established in 1871 and named in honor of the Hughes family. The greater part of the company's product is shipped to Cincinnati, although some is handled by Dayton dealers. In all these various capacities, Mr. Hughes has shown the possession of a mind of particular clearness as to the complexities of modern business and finance, and his associates depend upon his judgment and acuteness of foresight in all matters of importance. Mr. Hughes was a member of the infirmary directing board for three years. He takes a keen and intelligent interest in politics and votes the Democratic ticket. His social connections include membership in the Butler County Country club and the Business Men's club of Hamilton. Mr. Hughes' first marriage occurred October 25, 1870, when he was united with Christina A. Swearingen, who was born near Bethany, O., and died June 3, 1876, leaving one daughter, Mary; Wilbur, born June 31, 1873, and died September 17, 1873. Mr. Hughes was again married September 25, 1879, to Hannah J. Shaffer, born in Butler county, a daughter of Peter Shaffer, and they had two children, Harry E., born May 6, 1883, and Hubert, born November 29, 1888, who died August 3, 1889. Mary Hughes was born January 28, 1875, and was married April 6, 1898, to Ralph K. Beeler, a druggist of Hamilton. They have two children: Hughes, born July 28, 1899; and Francis S., born May 21, 1908. Harry E. Hughes was educated at Middletown, Ohio, and in a business college. He is one of the active and energetic young business men of Butler county, being connected with the grain trade with elevators at Hughes Station and Kyle. He is a member of the Cincinnati Board of Trade, and of the Country and Business Men's clubs and the Elks, at Hamilton. He married Florence Freid, and they are the parents of one son,—Robert.

Harry A. Hughes, one of the reliable pharmacists of Hamilton,

Ohio, owns the drug store located at Main and D streets, and is very well regarded in this city because of his sterling characteristics and excellent business judgment. He was born at Georgetown, Ohio, July 14, 1889, a son of G. V. and Martha (Kratzer) Hughes, natives of Adams county and Union Plains, Ohio, respectively. G. V. Hughes attended the common schools of his native county, and then went to Lebanon university, and after completing his course there, he began teaching school, remaining in the educational field for twelve years, leaving it to engage in a lumber business at Mt. Orab, Ohio, which he still continues in that city. He had but one child by his first marriage, Harry A. Hughes, and after the death of his first wife, he was married (second) to Rebecca Miller, and they had three children. A very strong Democrat, G. V. Hughes has taken an active part in politics, not only serving as mayor and councilman of Mt. Orab, but also as county commissioner, which office he is still holding. His fraternal associations are maintained as a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. A thoroughly representative man he deserves the prominence to which he has attained. Harry A. Hughes was reared at Mt. Orab, where he attended the grammar and high schools, and then entering the Ohio Northern university, he took the regular pharmaceutical course, in which he was graduated in 1911, and he was associated with various drug concerns as a pharmacist until March, 1914, when he engaged in business at the corner of Main and D streets, Hamilton, Ohio, where he and his wife have comfortable living apartments over the store. This drug store is one of the finest in the city, and is beautifully decorated, and equipped with a large, modern soda fountain. A full line of drugs and fancy goods is handled, and a large business is carried on in them and with the soda fountain, patrons recognizing the quality of the goods dispensed, and the excellence of the service. August 23, 1911, Mr. Hughes was united in marriage with Miss Rose Fritz, a daughter of John and Emma Fritz, of Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Hughes votes the Democratic ticket, but is not active in politics. He belongs to Hamilton Lodge, B. P. O. E. Very popular in his community, Mr. Hughes has won the confidence and support of his patrons and the respect of his competitors by methods which are honorable, and industry and alertness which are commendable.

C. T. Hull, M. D. A comparative newcomer to Hamilton, Ohio, Dr. C. T. Hull has made an enviable reputation for himself by demonstrating conclusively that he is a thoroughly capable physician and one who is competent to treat the most difficult diseases human flesh is heir to, is today recognized as one of the foremost physicians of Hamilton. Like so many of the successful physicians of Butler county, Ohio, he was the son of a farmer and the admirable training received while living amid the wholesome atmosphere of the country was a strong factor in developing the traits of character for which he is noted. He was born in College Hill, Hamilton county, Ohio, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hull, and attended the public schools of Mt. Healthy and was graduated from the high school in 1889. From boyhood he had

manifested a liking for medicine and as he grew older this inclination became more pronounced. Always apt as a student and with the one ambition to make the most of his opportunities for a thorough education he took up the study of medicine and received his degree in 1894. After leaving college he took up the practice of medicine at Shandon, Ohio, and remained at that place for about twenty years, developing a practice which was both desirable and lucrative. Despite his congenial surroundings and the genuine interest that he manifested in the affairs of this community Doctor Hull was attracted by the possibilities of even larger practice and other considerations which Hamilton, Ohio, held out for him and accordingly he moved to Hamilton. The latter town has been growing rapidly in importance both commercially and industrially, and is known as the home of some of the most skillful physicians and surgeons of the state of Ohio, and Doctor Hull is numbered among these. He has membership in the Butler County Medical District Union and the State Medical society. Aside from his professional affairs Doctor Hull has found time to take active interest in fraternal matters, having membership in the Elks, Knights of Pythias, I. O. O. F. and Masons. In politics he is a Democrat.

Fred P. Humbach. Among the many special industries which within comparatively recent years have combined to practically revolutionize modern modes and customs, one which has been developed to a high state of efficiency is the laundry business. The modern laundry is one of the institutions in our national life which has done away with much of the drudgery of housework, and as such is recognized to have its place in the established order of things. At Hamilton, Ohio, such an institution is the large laundry business conducted by Fred P. Humbach, with his business associates, this business having been established in 1904. Mr. Humbach is a product of Hamilton, where he was born June 25, 1859, and received his education in the public schools. As a young man he became connected with the county clerk's office, at the court house, and subsequently was elected president of the board of election, a position which he held for several years. In 1904 he embarked in his present business, he now being secretary and treasurer of this concern, a $20,000 corporation, with George Sohngen as president. Mr. Humbach ranks high among Hamilton business men, is identified with various civic bodies, and holds membership in the B. P. O. E., the K. P. and the M. W. A. In politics he is a Democrat. After his marriage to Miss Magdelina Bosch, he purchased his present home at No. 233 Chestnut street, which he remodeled and upon which he has since made numerous improvements, making it one of the attractive homes of Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Humbach are the parents of three children: J. Edward, Robert F. and Walter E. J. Edward Humbach was born in 1887, at Hamilton, and received his education in the graded and high schools. For a time he was identified with the Niles Tool Works, but in 1905 became associated with Albert Hossfeld, a wholesale liquor dealer of Hamilton, in the capacity of manager, a position which he still retains. Mr. Humbach is a Democrat. He is one of the prominent

MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR B. HUNTER

Elks of this community, and was the first member chosen for the first board of governors selected to look after the Elks' new home, having been a member of the building committee, and interests. Later he was made secretary and treasurer of that board and held the office two years. Mr. Humbach was married August 6, 1912, to Miss Catherine Gruber, of Hamilton, and following his marriage purchased a home at 609 Millville avenue, but subsequently sold this and now resides on a farm near Trenton, Ohio. Robert F. Humbach was born in 1890, at Hamilton, and was educated in the graded and high schools. After completing his studies he joined his father in the laundry business and was connected therewith until April, 1918, when he enlisted in the U. S. Engineers, and after four months of intensive training was sent to France. Walter E. Humbach, the youngest son, was born in 1892, at Hamilton, and after graduating from the high school at Hamilton took a course in pharmacy at Cincinnati. He is now associated with the drug business of Charles Krone, at Second and Walnut streets, Hamilton.

Arthur Baird Hunter. The supervision of some 1310 acres of Miami valley land in itself would indicate the possession of marked ability in an agricultural way, and this is the responsibility assumed by Arthur Baird Hunter, of the West Middletown community, who has for many years been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Butler county. Mr. Hunter was born November 2, 1868, near Trenton, O., a son of Calvin Symmes and Anna (Baird) Hunter. His parents, old-time residents and agricultural people, owned a farm in the neighborhood of Trenton, and the early education of the youth was secured in the country schools, following which he took a course in the normal school at Lebanon. At this time he is the owner of 1100 acres of land in Butler county, the operations on which he oversees, but his home is made on the old Graft homestead, which consists of 210 acres, and on which he personally carries on agricultural activities. Mr. Hunter has always been a farmer, and during his long and uniformly successful career has experimented extensively with the various branches of agricultural work. He is now principally a grain grower, but makes a specialty of raising Hereford cattle and Duroc hogs, and has met with much success in both directions. Naturally a progressive man, Mr. Hunter has not hesitated to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the use of modern, approved methods and highly improved farm machinery, and as a result, with hard work and good management, he has met with prosperity in the development of his farms, which are models for improvements and productiveness. It is not alone as a successful agriculturist that Mr. Hunter is known, however, but as an advanced and independent thinker and promoter of new movements. He has always been a great friend of the cause of education, having served as a member of the school board for twenty years, during which time he is accredited with having promulgated a number of the movements which have made for advancement and general elevation of the schools. More recently he became the father of the thought of "social centering" of the

schools and won distinction throughout the state for his efforts in behalf of this movement. Mr. Hunter has various interests aside from his farm, and is a director of the Farmers National bank at Seven Mile. His political belief makes him a Democrat. Mr. Hunter was married December 26, 1894, to Miss Mary Graft, daughter of the late Samuel Graft, of Seven Mile. They have their residence on the old Graft homestead.

Calvin Symmes Hunter, father of Arthur Baird, Joseph Symmes, Clarence Noble and Harry Drayer Hunter, was of Scotch-Irish origin, the family being represented in the United States by Thomas Hunter, who came to southern Ohio when Cincinnati was in her infancy and there married Jane Noble, the daughter of William Noble, one of the leading merchants of that city. Of this union there was but one issue, William Noble Hunter, father of Calvin S. Hunter. William Noble Hunter was a thrifty farmer, a man who not only advocated a high standard of Christian living, but by his daily walk and conversation demonstrated the same. His aspirations were holy and afford a striking example of what may be accomplished when governed by noble impulses. The Bible was his daily textbook, and in the summer of 1827 at a camp-meeting held at Springdale, Hamilton county, Ohio, he and his wife made an open confession of their faith and erected a family altar and in 1828 identified themselves with the Presbyterian church of Hamilton, Ohio, and in 1837 Mr. Hunter was elected Elder of this congregation. Mr. Hunter was one of the founders and builders of the Pleasant run Presbyterian church, and served as Elder in that, and the Hamilton church for forty years or until his death, August 16, 1877. Mr. Hunter died on the fiftieth anniversary and at the very hour of their marriage ceremony. On August 16, 1827, William N. Hunter was united in marriage to Esther Woodruff Symmes, who followed him in death November 2, 1892. William N. Hunter's life was remarkable for his unswerving devotion to principle and his firm faith in Providence. It was said of him, by one of his intimate friends, "I do not doubt but that the Lord could have made a better man than William N. Hunter, but he did not do it." Esther Woodruff Symmes Hunter, mother of Calvin S. Hunter, was a daughter of Judge Celadon Symmes who was associate judge of Butler county from 1806 to 1820, and prior to that time assistant to Israel Ludlow in the survey of the Symmes purchase in the Miami country. He was nephew of Judge John Cleves Symmes, the proprietor. Mrs. Hunter's mother was Phebe Randolph, cousin of John Randolph of Roanoke, Va. Mrs. Hunter's grandfather, Timothy Symmes of Sussex county, N. J., served in the Revolutionary war as quartermaster. Calvin S. Hunter was born on the old homestead in Fairfield township January 22, 1838. Being reared on his father's farm he early learned the lessons of industry and thrift, which formed the basis of his successful career, and marked him distinctively as one of the notable men of his day. He was educated at Farmers college, College Hill, and Hanover college, Indiana. Mr. Hunter took up teaching as a profession for some ten year, acquiring an enviable reputation as an educator, shaping

MR. AND MRS. CALVIN S. HUNTER

the minds of the youth, giving them proper conceptions of the dignity, duty and responsibility of life. Naturally and instinctively Mr. Hunter took to the soil, where he could get close to nature and nature's God. Consequently he gave up teaching and turned to the farm. He was active in the Agricultural society of Butler county for more than fifty years. He was associated with Prof. F. G. Carey along scientific and experimental work in both agriculture and horticulture, and from time to time made exhaustive reports of same, thus becoming noted as a fluent writer, often adding color by his originality. His contributions were read with interest and pleasure and accepted as authority. He was sought as a lecturer far and near. He invented farming implements that proved satisfactory to the farmers and financial return to himself along horticulture lines. He tested and improved thirty varieties of strawberries, one hundred kinds of apples, and 120 kinds of grapes. Mr. Hunter was considered among men as an up-to-date Ohio man. He was a musician, being able to play five or six different instruments, and was a teacher in voice culture, with marked success. His religious convictions were marked, and profound, and like his father was especially concerned in the Sabbath school work. Mr. Hunter was Elder in the Jacksonboro Presbyterian church. He was united in marriage November 5, 1868, to Anna Baird, whose parents came to Ohio in an early day from New Jersey. Mr. Hunter died March 16, 1912, and Mrs. Hunter died in November, 1915.

James Patrick Hussey. In the career of James Patrick Hussey is found an excellent example of safe and conservative enterprise, backed by sound judgment and constant industry. For years a railroad man, Mr. Hussey has always been close to the soil, and at this time in addition to being the owner of a valuable farming property, owns and operates three threshing outfits and clover hullers. He was born at Hamilton, Ohio, in 1856, a son of Patrick and Mary (Delaney) Hussey, the father being a native of Ireland and a stone mason by trade. He was a young man when he emigrated to the United States and first settled at Cincinnati, in which city he followed his trade for some years. There he was first married, his wife dying and leaving him one son, Michael, who served in the Union army during the Civil war in the army of General Sherman. After leaving Cincinnati, Mr. Hussey came to Hamilton, where he passed the rest of his life, and where he married Mary Delaney, their union resulting in the birth of four children: Agnes, the wife of James Carroll, of Decatur, Ill.; Mary, deceased, who was a resident of New York; James Patrick; and William, a resident of Indianapolis. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Hussey came to Hanover township, Butler county, and rounded out her life on a farm near the one on which her son is now living. Educated in the public schools of Hanover township, James P. Hussey was early called upon to make his own way in the world, and, being attracted to railroading, took up that work, which he followed as a fireman and in construction camps for many years. When he left railroading, he purchased a farm of ninty-six acres, located in Han-

over township, on which he has since carried on successful operations, combining industry, knowledge and good management with the result that he has been able to accomplish much for his own benefit and at the same time has aided in the development of his community. A feature of Mr. Hussey's work has been his operations as a thresher, a business which he has followed during a period approximating a half century, operating three threshing outfits and clover hullers. He stands high in public confidence and the esteem of his associates, and as a citizen has shown himself public-spirited at all times, and especially so during the period of the great world war, when he and the members of his family took a helpful part in all war activities. Mr. Hussey was married in 1879 to Mary, daughter of Michael and Bridget Bergen, of College Corner, who were also the parents of three sons: William, Thomas and Joseph, who are all deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Hussey there have been born five children: William P., who is engaged in agricultural operations in Hanover township; Martha A., who resides with her parents; Charles H., a Butler county farmer with a property in Hanover township, who married Elsie Bisdorf and has two children,—James W. and Donald Charles Elvin, who joined his country's colors during the great war and was stationed in California; and Lawrence, who went across seas to France as a member of the 3d Division Signal Corps, and was later with the army of occupation in Germany. The members of the Hussey family are faithful attendants of St. Mary's Catholic church at Oxford, to which they have belonged for many years.

C. N. Huston, M. D. For more than thirty-two years, Dr. C. N. Huston has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery at Hamilton, and in this time has been a worthy representative of his noble calling, a citizen of the highest mind and acts, the firm upholder of public charities which have appealed to his sense of justice and utility, and the dispenser of private benevolences to the full extent of his means and strength. Doctor Huston was born at Lawrenceburg, Ind., in 1856, and was a small child when his parents removed with him to Columbus, Ohio, where he secured his education in the public schools. His career was commenced as a schoolteacher, and for three years he was engaged in instructing the youthful mind in a class at Rensselaer, Ind., but in the meantime applied himself to the study of his chosen profession of medicine. Entering the Ohio Medical college, at Cincinnati, he was graduated with the class of 1887, receiving the degree of M. D., and immediately came to Hamilton where he embarked in practice, in which he has since been engaged. His professional attainments, his unfailing rectitude and ability, and his personal promptness and courtesy have served to attract and hold to him a large clientele, and by his fellow-practitioners he is recognized as one of the foremost of Hamilton's men of medicine. He is a member of the Butler County Medical society, the Ohio State Medical society and the American Medical association, and has been active in local affairs of the city, having served as school examiner for two terms and as a member of the board of education

for several years. Politically he is a Democrat, and his religious faith is that of the Baptist church. Fraternally, Doctor Huston is a thirty-second degree Mason. His first wife bore the maiden name of Ella Davis, and after her death he was united with the present Mrs. Huston, who was formerly Miss May Blossom. Doctor and Mrs. Huston have no children.

Robert M. L. Huston was born at College Corner, Ohio, June 22, 1844, a son of Dr. Robert C. and Jane (Montgomery) Huston, natives of Pennsylvania who came to Ohio in 1829. Robert C. Huston was a son of John Huston, of Pennsylvania, who located first at Rushville, Ind., in 1829, and later married Sarah Morrison of Greene county, Pa. James Montgomery came to Ohio from Pennsylvania on horseback and secured wild land in Oxford township, Butler county, then returned for his family, which he brought to their new home. Eventually he cleared the land and developed a farm, and there passed the remainder of his life, dying in 1844, while his widow survived until 1882. Robert C. Huston was given better educational advantages than the majority of youths of his day and locality, for he attended Miami college and also spent two years in a medical college at Cincinnati. He began the practice of medicine at Liberty, Ind., where he remained for two years, and from 1844 to 1852 followed his profession at College Corner, then removing to Oxford, which continued to be his home and the scene of his professional success until 1887. He was a physician of the old school, who traveled extensively throughout the country on his missions of mercy and who became known and beloved all over the countryside. He belonged to the Miami Medical college and the Union Medical society, and at his death, in August, 1887, the Presbyterian church lost one of its faithful workers. Joining the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1848 he continued as a member thereof for nearly forty years and was widely known in fraternal circles. He and his wife, who died in 1871, were the parents of four children: Robert M. L., of this notice; James W., a retired farmer of Hamilton, Ohio; Sarah E., the widow of James N. Bradley; and John C., who was postmaster at College Corner for four years and a druggist there for twenty years, and also manager of a pharmacy at Hamilton for eight years. John C. Huston married Ella Loder. Robert M. L. Huston attended the home schools, following which he enrolled as a student at Miami university, Oxford, and was graduated therefrom in 1867. He began his career as a teacher in the township schools at Oxford, and during the next ten years became a skilled educator and one who had the friendship and esteem of parents and pupils alike, becoming well known in the country districts of Oxford and Reily townships. Next, for two years, he was in the postoffice at College Corner with his brother, John C., and then took up farming, which he followed in Milford township for a period of twenty-three years, when in 1909 he disposed of his property in Milford and moved to Oxford, where at the present time he is the owner of considerable real estate. Mr. Huston was married in 1875 to Adeline Addis, ward of William and Susan Addis, of Oxford, Ohio, and to this union there were

born two children: Frederick W., a graduate of Miami university, class of 1899, who for some years was a school teacher and superintendent at various points in the country and graded schools and of Columbus High school; he studied law and was a graduate of a law school and was engaged in the practice of his profession at Columbus until his death which occurred in 1911; and Susan Edith, a graduate of Miami university, class of 1907, who for twelve years taught high school at Union City, Ashland, Sandusky and Camden, Ohio, and is now the wife of Rev. S. I. Gear, minister of the Presbyterian church at Camden, Ohio. In the period of the Civil war, Mr. R. M. L. Huston served two years in the Ohio National Guards, and saw active service as a soldier of the Union from May 2 to September 28, 1864. Since 1868 he has maintained membership in Millikin Post No. 228, G. A. R., at Oxford, in which he has held all the offices and has been commander for two years. Mr. Huston has been a member of the Presbyterian church at Oxford all his life and has been Elder thereof for many years. As a citizen he has always taken a leading part in supporting movements for the general welfare, and in business circles he is a man who has always been looked up to because of his strict integrity, fair and honorable dealing and personal probity of character and action.

Hutchisson Brothers, leading grocers in Oxford, stand particularly high in public confidence. These enterprising merchants have the right kind of commercial spirit and have built up a paying trade. They carry several grades of goods, moderately priced, and in sufficient variety to encourage local patronage, and in consequence have won the confidence and support of the community. John W. and James D. Hutchisson were born at Oxford, sons of James and Margaret (Fields) Hutchisson, who still make their home here. The father, for a number of years a prominent farmer and stockdealer of Butler county, and later a butcher at Oxford, is now living in comfortable retirement, having amassed a goodly share of worldly goods. There were nine children in the family: Ella, who is the wife of Alfred Garrett, of Chicago, Ill.; Wealthy, who is the wife of P. O. Schultz, a resident of Franklin county, Ind., where Mr. Schultz is engaged in agricultural pursuits; John W.; Emma, who married Arthur Smith, a mail carrier of Oxford; William, who is identified with Carson, Pirie, Scott & company, of Chicago, Ill., and is married; Lottie, who makes her home with her parents; Laura, who is the widow of Clark Nelson and resides at Cleveland, Ohio; James D.; and Margaret, the wife of George Obergfeld, an oil and gas chemist, late of Pittsburg. John W. and James D. Hutchisson received their educational training in the public schools of Oxford and as youths entered as employees in an old established grocery business of Oxford. They were quick to learn all details of the trade, and in 1907 became by purchase the proprietors of the business, which they have since conducted with great success. They carry a full line of staple and fancy groceries thus making their establishment the leading grocery of Oxford and worthy of the patronage given the business. John W. Hutchisson married Althea Wagner, and James D. married Blanche Fry and has one child,

Edna. The brothers have taken an active part in the civic life of the community, James having formerly been chief of the fire department for five years, and John W. holding the same position for four years. The latter is a director of the Oxford Telephone company, and both belong to the Oxford Lodge of Masons, James D. being a trustee of that lodge. By sheer pluck, industry and enterprise they have built up a business representative of the best commercial element of Butler county.

L. R. Hyams, a real estate, insurance and investments operator of Hamilton, was born at Springfield, Ohio, a son of Al G. Hyams, who came to Hamilton when his son was three years old, and for twenty-six years was connected with the T. V. Howe company and The Mathes & Sohngen company. L. R. Hyams received his education in the public schools of Hamilton, and after leaving high school secured a position with the Mosler Safe company, a concern with which he remained two years. Later he entered the circulation department of the Hamilton Sun, remaining one and one-half years, when he accepted a position as traveling salesman and followed that occupation for four years. In 1908, Mr. Hyams entered the real estate business at Hamilton, dealing principally in business properties. He is a valued member of the Hamilton Real Estate Dealers association, as well as of the state and national bodies, and is known as a man of the highest integrity. He is a strong Democrat and prominent in the ranks of his party, and while a resident of Somerville, served in the capacity of postmaster from June, 1914, to December, 1915. He is likewise prominent in the Knights of Pythias, being deputy grand chancellor of Butler county and a member of the Butler County Pythian association, of which he was president one year. Mr. Hyams was married, in 1907, to Miss Jennie M. Stephens, of Somerville, Ohio, where he has since been making his home. Four children have been born to this union: Pauline, Robert, Marion and Dorothy, all at home.

Charles Ingle. On the roster of names appearing on the payroll of the American Rolling Mill company is found that of Charles Ingle, an energetic and progressive citizen of Middletown who has long wielded an influence among his fellows and has held their respect as well as that of the company with which he has been identified for some years in the capacity of heater. As a skilled and industrious workman he has rendered his company excellent service during the period of his incumbency of his present position, and his ideals of citizenship are such as to make him a valuable man in his community. Mr. Ingle was born near Cozaddale, Warren county, Ohio, April 22, 1881, a son of John and Millie (Langa) Ingle, and came with his mother to Middletown about the year 1899. He comes of good stock, his ancestors on his father's side of the family being of English origin, while the Langa's were French. John Ingle, who for many years was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Warren county, was a veteran of the Civil war, in which he fought bravely as a Union soldier, and was a man of influence in his community, where he was held in the highest esteem. In September, 1895, he met his death in a railroad accident,

his locality thereby losing one of its best citizens. John Ingle's family consisted of seven children, three by his first wife, Ezetta; Mary, deceased, and Elizabeth; and four by his second wife, who are now residents of Middletown: Charles; Mattie, who is now the wife of Fleet Williams; Florence; and Fred. Two of the nephews of Charles Ingle and sons of Elizabeth (Ingle) Cutler were in the United States Army during the country's participation in the great war: Owen and Victor Cutler, of Milford, Ohio. Charles Ingle was given his education in the district schools of Warren county and much of his boyhood and youth was passed on the home farm in that section. He was about eighteen years of age when he accompanied his mother to Middletown, and shortly thereafter the American Rolling Mill company opened its plant and he secured employment. There he completed his trade and has since continued to be employed as a heater, a position in which he has discharged his duties so well as to secure the commendatory criticism of his superiors. He is a general favorite with his fellow-workmen, and is a man of splendid mind and fine physique. Fraternally, Mr. Ingle is affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Columbus and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and has taken an interest in lodge work. He and the members of his family belong to Holy Trinity Catholic church, to the movements of which they have been liberal contributors. The Ingle home, on Harrison avenue, which was erected by Mr. Ingle, is a handsome one, and its doors are always thrown hospitably open to the many friends of Mr. Ingle and his wife. Mr. Ingle married Carrie, daughter of John and Anna (Reagan) Klock, of Middletown. Mr. Klock, who was one of the respected citizens of Middletown, and a veteran of the struggle between the North and South, died July 5, 1913. He and his wife were the parents of five daughters: Carrie; a child who died in infancy; Mayme, who is also deceased; and Anna and Lena, who reside with their widowed mother and hold lucrative positions at Dayton.

James Inloes. Farming has stimulated the best efforts of some of the leading men of various parts of Butler county, and through their participation therein they have become well-to-do and prominent in their communities. Such a man is James Inloes, of Morgan township, who is known in his community as a skilled and successful general farmer. Mr. Inloes was born in Butler county, Ohio, June 24, 1873, a son of David and Elizabeth (Hamlin) Inloes, the former a native of Hamilton county and the latter of England. The mother came to the United States a child and resided with her parents in Hamilton county, Ohio, until her marriage to Mr. Inloes, after which the young couple moved to a farm in Morgan township, Butler county, after a short residence in Franklin county, Ind. They became the parents of the following children: Alfred and John, residents of Oxford, Ohio; Clem, who resides in Reily township, this county; William, of Morgan township; James, of this review; Lois, deceased; Kate, deceased, who was the wife of Harry Hamilton of Okeana, and had one child, Charles; and Elizabeth and Lessie, deceased. William Inloes has two sons who were in the army dur-

ing the late war, Frank and Carl, the latter of whom saw active service in France. James Inloes attended the public schools of Franklin county, Ind., and Morgan township, and following the completion of his education worked for his father until he attained his majority, after which he began working by the month. He was married March 4, 1896, to Margaret, daughter of Jonathan and Helen Levingston, of Franklin county, Ind., who had six other daughters: Inzia Harling, of New Zealand, whose husband met his death during the great war; Belle, Gertrude, Emma, Ola and Mary. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Inloes: Lillian, Martha, Valita and Upton. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Inloes settled on the farm of W. L. Beard, of Oxford, located in Morgan township, and Mr. Inloes became the owner thereof by purchasing in 1915. This is a productive tract of 180 acres, which he devotes to general farming and the raising of Jersey and Holstein cattle, and in both departments has been entirely successful. He is thoroughly conversant with modern methods of agricultural work, and as he is progressive and at the same time practical he has become known as one of the able agriculturists of his community. As a citizen, also, he has been active in promoting good movements. His political allegiance is with the Democratic party, and he and the members of his family belong to the Christian church at Scipio.

Jacob A. Inman. The prosperity that has come to many of the Butler county agriculturists is not due to chance but to a fortunate selection of location and persistent and intelligent working of the land. One of the retired farmers of this locality, who during a long, active and honorable career developed a valuable property and won and held the respect and esteem of those with whom he came into contact, is Jacob A. Inman, at this time a resident of Somerville, Mr. Inman was born in Randolph county, Ind., February 8, 1842, a son of Benjamin and Louise (Smith) Inman, natives of New Jersey. Benjamin Inman was but six years of age when he accompanied his father, Jacob Inman, and the rest of the family to Ohio, in 1818, in which year they located three miles northeast of Somerville, in Preble county. This was wooded country, but the grandfather, Jacob, aided by his sons, cleared a farm, cultivated it, and established a home. Although a civil engineer by profession, Jacob Inman continued to be engaged in farming all of his life, and died while on a visit to Cleveland. He and his wife were the parents of nine children: Anthony, Rebecca, Samuel, Benjamin, Axel, Jacob, Jobe, Joseph and Barzilla. Benjamin Inman grew up on the home place and went to the school located three miles west of Camden, and when he entered upon his career it was as an agriculturist. Later in life he went to Randolph county, Ind., where he became a prominent citizen and was for a number of years the incumbent of the office of justice of the peace. Returning to Butler county in 1876 he located near Seven Mile and bought the old home place in Preble county, but died two years later, at the age of sixty-six years. His widow survived him for some years and passed away when eighty-two. While they were of Quaker stock, there was no settlement of Quakers in their near community, and they became members of the

Christian church. Politically a staunch Republican, Mr. Inman took much interest in public affairs. Six children were born to him and his wife: Rachael, who died single; Hannah, who married Hiram Pottinger, of West Elkton, Ohio; Jobe S., a farmer of Somerville, who married Jane Swope; Benjamin, a retired farmer residing near West Elkton; William E., who lost his life by drowning in the Miami river, when thirty years of age; and Jacob A. Jacob A. Inman received his education in the public schools of his home community and grew up on the home farm. He was but nineteen years of age when the war broke out, and in the following year, August 13, 1862, enlisted in Company G, 83d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Seven Mile. His regiment was sent to Vicksburg, and subsequently Mr. Inman took part in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Port Gibson, Champion Hill, Big Black River, first and second battles of Vicksburg, siege of Jackson and Fort Blakely, and skirmishes at Greenville, Cane River, Morris Plantation and Atchapalaya River. He was promoted corporal and later sergeant, and January 17, 1865, was transferred to Company I of the same regiment. After a service characterized by bravery in the line of duty and fidelity to every trust, he received his honorable discharge July 24, 1865, at Galveston, Texas. He still retains membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Hamilton Post. Following his military service, Mr. Inman returned to his home, where he remained, taking care of his parents until his marriage, February 13, 1879, to Sarah M. Frazee, who was born in 1849, at Billingsville, Ind., daughter of Edwin and Hannah (Baker) Frazee, natives of New Jersey who came early to Ohio. They first located in Hamilton county, but subsequently moved to two miles west of Somerville, farming there for a few years, and then moving one mile nearer to the city, where both died. They had five children: Mrs. Inman; Samuel, a farmer living one mile west of Somerville; Laura, the wife of John Helvey, both now deceased; Lydia, deceased, who was the wife of the late R. Bennett; and Caleb, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Inman have had no children of their own, but have adopted a nephew and a niece, Clarence S. and Mary Stephens, the latter now chief operator at the Somerville Telephone exchange. The former was born at Middletown, Ind., a son of Curtis Stephens, of Preble county. He has lived with Mr. Inman since his eighth year, and during the past two years has been engaged in operating his foster father's farm. During the time the United States was in the great war, he served as a corporal in Company K, 332d Regiment, 83d Division. Following his marriage, Mr. Inman lived on the old home place for twelve years, and then moved west of Somerville, where he made his home from 1889 to 1916. In addition to the old Frazee place of eighty acres, in section 4, Milford township, he has fifty-three acres of the Inman farm and is accounted to be in comfortable financial circumstances. In 1916 he purchased a home at Somerville, where he has since been living in quiet retirement, enjoying the fruits of his early years of toil. Mr. Inman has never cared for public office, but is a staunch supporter of Republican principles and candidates and an active worker in all public-spirited movements

that promise to be of benefit to his community and its people. He and Mrs. Inman are faithful members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has been an Elder for several years. Possessed of an exceptional memory, Mr. Inman can recall vividly the experiences of his early days in this locality, which he frequently relates in an interesting manner when surrounded by some of his numerous friends.

Cornelius Irwin. The progressive and energetic agriculturists of the Miami Valley are usually loath to turn over their interests to other hands, but when they have completed a long service of labor in developing the rich soil of this fertile region and finally settle down to retirement, they make substantial citizens who represent the best element of country life. One of the men of Darrtown who, after many years spent in farming and stock raising in Butler county, is now enjoying the comforts of retired life, is Cornelius Irwin. This highly respected citizen was born two miles north of Darrtown, February 25, 1842, a son of John and Caroline (Horner) Irwin, a grandson of Morton Irwin, Esq., of Pennsylvania, and a great-grandson of emigrants from Scotland. The first of the Irwin family of this branch to locate in Ohio was John Irwin, who was among the first settlers in the Darrtown vicinity, where he secured wild land, cleared a farm, and established a home for himself and family. He was a progressive citizen who took an interest in the needs of his community, and contributed his labors to the early efforts of the people at road-making, by assisting to cut highways through the woods. He married a Miss Crawford, daughter of James Crawford, an early settler and merchant of Darrtown. Squire Morton Irwin secured land north of Darrtown, where he cleared a farm and made a home, and there he and his worthy wife passed their entire lives as highly esteemed citizens. Their children were eight in number, as follows: John, James, Stephen, William, Sylvester, Thomas, Robert and Mary. John Irwin, father of Cornelius, grew up on the old home place and received his education in the local public schools. He was married in 1832 to Caroline Horner, and together they worked to the accumulation of an entire section of land, section 17, in Milford township, which at one time was all in heavy timber, but a large part of which was cleared through Mr. Irwin's industry. He was a general farmer, but also did a good deal of stock raising, and his progressive nature was exemplified in the fact that he was the first to bring Poland China hogs into his part of the county. He was widely known in his community, where he served as township trustee, and was a democrat in his political views. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Darrtown, in the faith of which he died at the age of seventy-one years, Mrs. Irwin passing away in 1854. John and Caroline Irwin were the parents of the following children: Joseph, deceased, of Milford township, who married the late Christina Wengling; Cornelius of this notice; Adelia Ann, who died in 1870; Harriette, who died in 1852; Frank, who is single and lives at Hamilton; William; and Caroline, of Niles, Mich., widow of Robert King. William Irwin, brother of Cornelius Irwin, was married June 8, 1870, to Harriet, daughter of

Adam and Catherine (Wehr) Flenner, farming people of near Overpeck, Ohio, who subsequently secured a farm near Darrtown and finally moved to Woodsdale, where they continued farming all their lives. By his first marriage Mr. Flenner had the following children: Chambers B., deceased; Nathan, who remained single and was a farmer all his life in Milford township; Louisa, deceased, who was the wife of Huston Kuyger; Harriett, who married William Irwin; Lavanda, the widow of John Clemons, of Hamilton; and Catherine. Mr. Flenner married for his second wife, Amanda Hamrick, and they had six children: Belle, who married John Cook, of Westchester, Ohio; Elizabeth, who married James Wehr, of Overpeck, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. William Irwin located on a part of the old home place James, of Trenton, Ohio; and Maggie. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. William Irvin located on a part of the old home place in Milford township, where they lived for fifteen years. Their two sons were Orville D. and Oscar L. Cornelius Irwin was educated in the public schools and reared as a farmer on the home place. He was married June 3, 1874, to Catherine Flenner, who died in June, 1912. To this union there was born a son who died in infancy. In young manhood Mr. Irwin had devoted a great deal of his time to school teaching, but following his marriage settled down to farming, and for several years resided on the home place. He then purchased eighty acres of land north of Darrtown, on which he carried on successful operations in farming and stockraising for more than a quarter of a century, but finally retired from active pursuits, having accumulated a satisfying competency, and has since resided in his comfortable home at Darrtown, in which community he is held in the highest esteem and respect. Mr. Irwin has always been interested in local affairs and is a citizen who has faithfully discharged the duties of citizenship. In 1870 he took the values of real estate, and for several years served as township assessor. Politically he is a Democrat, and fraternally has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for many years. His friends in the county are as numerous as his acquaintances.

Russell T. Irwin. Two vocations, hotel keeping and farming, have occupied the energies and abilities of Russell T. Irwin, one of the substantial and highly respected citizens of Reily township, Butler county. Mr. Irwin came of an agricultural family and was reared as an agriculturist, but allowed his attention to be diverted to the management of hostelries. Eventually, however, he answered the call of the soil, and at this time owns the old Taylor Alexander place, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation and productiveness. Mr. Irwin was born at Bunker Hill, Ohio, November 6, 1869, a son of Morton Irwin. His father was born at Darrtown, son of John Irwin, who emigrated from Ireland to the United States in young manhood and settled in the vicinity of Darrtown, Butler county, where he passed the remaining years of his life as an agriculturist and there died. Morton Irwin was given the advantages of attendance at the home schools of his native locality and grew up as a farmer's son remaining at home and assisting his father until his marriage to Mary Marshall, of Darrtown. Following his union, he

MRS. LAURA C. ISEMINGER

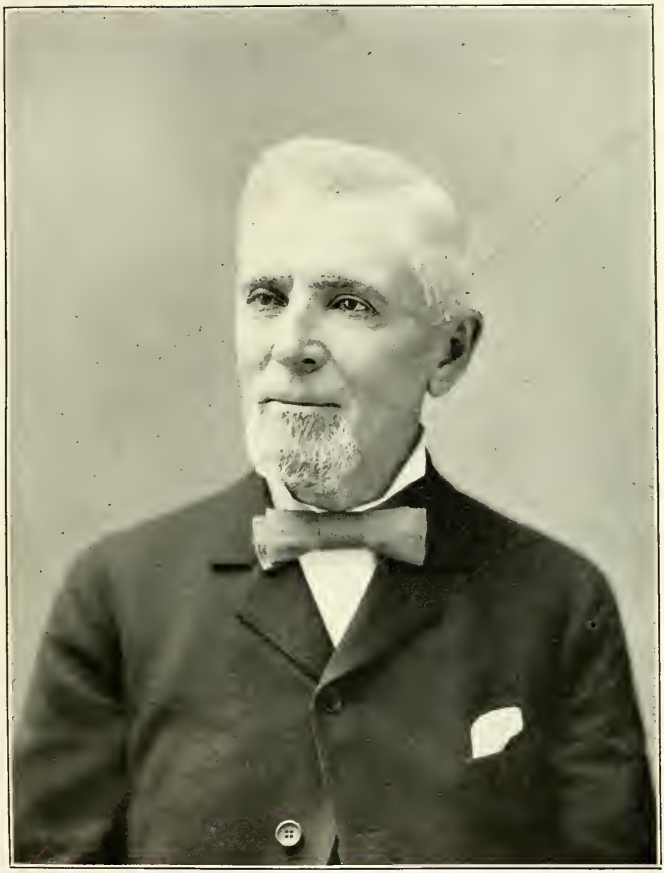
J. M. ISEMINGER

embarked in farming on his own account, but later went to Fairhaven, Ohio, where he established himself in business as the propietor of a large store which he conducted for several years. Still later he disposed of his holdings at Fairhaven and removed to Bunker Hill, which continued to be his place of residence until his death in 1912, when he was eighty-four years of age. His wife passed away in 1910, when she had reached the age of seventy-six years, and both were God-fearing people and church members who were highly respected in their community. Mr. Irwin was independent in his political belief and voted for the candidate whom he thought best fitted for the office, refusing to be governed by party lines. He and his wife became the parents of eleven children, of whom nine grew to maturity: Louisa, of Reily township, widow of Alfred Stitzel; Maude; Russell T.; Bert, a hotel keeper at Reily; Merle, a farmer; John, Cora and Gertie, who are deceased; and Harry, who lives at Kansas City, Mo. Russell T. Irwin attended the district schools and the public school at Mt. Auburn, Ohio, and resided at home until he reached the age of twenty-five years, for the most part being associated with his father in the elder man's business ventures. When he left the parental roof he went to Millville, and for three years was engaged in the hotel business there, but disposed of his interests at the end of that time and located at Reily, where for fifteen years he was the proprietor of a popular caravansery which secured a large patronage from the traveling public as well as from the residents of the community. Eventually, he decided to again turn his attention to farming, and in 1917 located on the farm which he now occupies, the old Taylor Alexander place, where he has 167 acres in a high state of cultivation. He has made numerous improvements, including Delco lights throughout, and in addition to his comfortable and attractive home, has a large and commodious barn, fully equipped, and outbuildings of a substantial character. Mr. Irwin is a general farmer and has a thorough knowledge of the business as is evidenced by the success which he has made therein. He is a man of high principles whose name stands high in commercial circles and whose signature is instantly accepted on commercial paper, and as a citizen has shown his public spirit on numerous occasions. As a voter he is a Democrat, and his fraternal connection is with the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Hamilton Lodge, No. 407. Mr. Irwin was married at Bunker Hill to Elizabeth, daughter of George and Anna Popp, both deceased, natives of Germany who were farming people for some years in the Bunker Hill neighborhood. To this union there has been born one son, Howard L., born at Bunker Hill, Ohio, in February, 1900, who has always been associated with his father and is now assisting him ably in his farming operations.

J. M. Iseminger. After more than sixty years of business existence, the firm of Caldwell & Iseminger is still one of the leading establishments of its kind, this company being extensively engaged at Middletown in contracting, building and manufacturing, making a specialty of veneered doors, hardwood interiors and bank and office furniture and fixtures of an artistic design. During a period of

thirty-five years, J. M. Iseminger has been identified with this business, twenty-one years of this time as a partner, and during this long period has established himself thoroughly in the confidence and esteem of the general public and his business associates. Mr. Iseminger was born on a farm in Morgan township, Butler county, Ohio, February 14, 1857, and received a common school education. He was nineteen years of age when he secured a clerkship in a general store at Okeana, Ohio, and this he retained three years, then taking a position with the firm of T. V. Howell & Son, of Hamilton. Remaining with this concern for five years, he resigned the position of general manager, which he had held for one and one-half years, to become, in February, 1884, manager of the William Caldwell Lumber Dealer and Manufacturer Company, at Middletown. This had been established as early as 1856, and under Mr. Iseminger's management it grew and flourished exceedingly. In 1898 Mr. Iseminger was given an interest in the business by Mr. Caldwell, the firm at that time becoming, as at present, Caldwell & Iseminger, in 1912 it was incorporated as the Caldwell & Iseminger Company, and during a half a century of unremitting business energy, Mr. Iseminger has established a record for business shrewdness and absolute diligence and integrity. His standing as a citizen is also an excellent one, and he has never failed to perform his full duties and responsibilities. Mr. Iseminger's wife, Laura C., whom he married February 5, 1884, is a daughter of Mr. Iseminger's business partner, William Caldwell. To Mr. and Mrs. Iseminger were born a daughter, Myrtle May, who married Mr. C. E. Daley, who is a partner of his father-in-law in the lumber business, and lives in Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Iseminger and family belong to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Iseminger is proud to assert that the greatest part of his success is due to his wife and the early training of Mr. Caldwell as he was a very young man when he entered business.

Karl Jack. Of the men who have aided in the success of the American Rolling Mill, at Middletown, one whose ability and industry have been contributing factors is Karl Jack, a most popular employee of this large plant. A man of good education, he is a millman by choice, temperament and long experience, and during his connection with the company at Middletown he has risen to a high place in the confidence of his employers. Mr. Jack was born at Leechburg, Pa., June 19, 1879, a son of William B. and Evelyn (Marland) (Taylor) Jack. His maternal great-grandfather, Matthew Taylor, came as a British soldier to this country during the War of the Revolution, but, becoming convinced of the justice of the Colonists' cause, deserted from the English army and cast his fortunes with the Patriots under George Washington. Mr. Jack's mother died at Middletown, January 6, 1913, and his father is also deceased. Karl Jack is a man of brilliant mind and splendid education, being a graduate of the high school of Leechburg Pa., and of Lafayette college, Easton, Pa. In 1911 he came from Zanesville, Ohio, to Middletown, where he became associated with the American Rolling mill in the capacity of roller, a position which he has since retained, and in which he has discharged every duty in a com-



WILLIAM CALDWELL

mendable and highly satisfactory manner. He is a Democrat in his political views and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and is very popular among his fellows, being possessed of a likable personality. March 2, 1905, Mr. Jack married at Canal Dover, Ohio, Lottie B., daughter of J. D. and Cora (Kline) McGill, and to this union there has been born one son, McGill, born in 1908. Mrs. Jack's father was for many years clerk of courts and recorder of Tuscarawas county, Ohio, and for a long period of this time she served in that office as his deputy.

Charles Jacoby, president of the Farmers National bank of Seven Mile, is of those men who have worked their own way to positions of prominence. Mr. Jacoby was born on a farm at Seven Mile, Butler county, Ohio, and is a son of Henry and Caroline (Birch) Jacoby, natives of Pennsylvania who are both deceased. They passed their lives as farming people after coming to Ohio, won the respect and esteem of all who know them, contributed to the development of their community and to its religious and educational institutions, and after death were reverently laid to rest in the Hickory Flat cemetery. They were the parents of six children: Charles; Henry, a resident of Hamilton; Edward, of Seven Mile; David, of Middletown; Mrs. I. W. Boatman; and Mrs. Alfred Yingling, who is deceased. Charles Jacoby received his education in the public schools at Seven Mile, after leaving which he applied himself to farming. This he has continued to the present time, although of late his attention has largely been centered in banking matters, but he is still the owner of a handsome and highly productive property of 149 acres, situated near Trenton. Mr. Jacoby became identified with the Farmers National bank of Seven Mile in August, 1909, at the time of its organization. At that time he joined Thomas H. Bell and other men in founding this institution and was elected to the vice-presidency, and later became president of the institution which under his wise management has prospered greatly. Mr. Jacoby is a business man and banker of marked ability and a public-spirited citizen, and during the war was a prominent factor in assuring the success of the various war activities. He was married in 1885 to Emma, daughter of John Beatty, a farmer of the Overpeck community. Mr. and Mrs. Jacoby are members of the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Hattie S. James, who has been continuously identified with the Lane Public library at Hamilton, Ohio, since 1903, is one whose talents and acquirements well fit her for the post of librarian. Mrs. James possesses that general familiarity with literature that only a lover of books strives for, has infinite tact and patience, and also has the business acumen that is a very necessary adjunct of the office she fills. Mrs. James was born at Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, daughter of Joseph C. and Martha (Smith) Symmes, the latter a very distinguished family in America. She was married in 1894 to Clement V. James, now deceased. He was born at Hamilton, Ohio, April 28, 1871, son of Barton and Mary J. (Longfellow) James, his maternal grandfather, John Longfellow, being a pioneer settler in Butler county. Barton James was a farmer for a number of years in Hanover township, later moved to Hamilton and engaged in the

drug business in the old P. G. Smith building on Main street, subsequently removing to the southwest corner of Main and B streets. He was elected clerk of the common pleas court in 1878, in which office he served from February, 1879, until his death. Clement V. James was educated in the public schools of Hamilton and Miami university, and afterward for eight years was with the Niles Tool works in the capacity of cost clerk. He then took a position as traveling salesman with the Foundry Supply company, of Pittsburg, with which concern he remained four years. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. James: Laird, Evelyn, Temple. Laird James, after completing the high school course at Hamilton, was employed in clerical capacities with the C. H. & D. and the B. & O. railroads, until March, 1918, when he entered military service in the Coast Artillery, and was stationed at Fortress Monroe, Va. While in the National Army he was promoted rapidly on account of his clerical ability, becoming corporal and later supply sergeant. He was discharged in February, 1919, honorably, and immediately secured civilian work, taking a position with the American Wire & Steel company, at Birmingham, Ala. Evelyn, the only daughter, is the wife of Leon J. Ziliox, a prominent lawyer of Hamilton. Temple James completed the entire public school course at Hamilton, after which he learned the machinist trade and was employed as a machinist with the Niles Tool works until July, 1917, when he enlisted in the National Army, entering the Field Artillery branch and was stationed at Camp Sheridan, Alabama. While there he was promoted to the rank of corporal, and in June, 1918, went to France, and was one of the American heroes who took part in the engagements on the Meuse, in the Argonne and the Marbach Sector. March 10, 1919, he was honorably discharged at Camp Sherman, and on his return from France, was married to Mildred Chadwick, daughter of Capt. Harry R. and Grace (Flenner) Chadwick, and at present is employed by Black & Clawson, as a machinist. The late Clement V. James belonged to the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. From December, 1903, until January, 1912, Mrs. Hattie S. James served as assistant librarian of the Lane Public library, at Hamilton, on the latter date being appointed librarian. She is a member of the Current Events club of Hamilton. Mrs. James resides with her son Temple, at No. 336 High street, Hamilton.

John Jasbring. One of the valuable and attractive farm properties of Butler county is that belonging to John Jasbring which lies in St. Clair township. He is of those men of Butler county who have made their own way and have gained success through the exercise of their native ability and industry. He was born in Butler county, Ohio, January 13, 1866, a son of Frederick and Mary (Rupp) Jasbring. Frederick Jasbring was born in Germany and was a young man when he emigrated to the United States, settling first in the rural districts of Butler county and later moving to Middletown. There he met and married Mary Rupp, who was born at Hamilton, and whose parents had located in Butler county as farming people on the Middletown pike. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Jas-

PETER JASBRING

MRS. PETER JASBRING

bring went to Flenner Corner, where they resided for a time, subsequently going to near Middletown, and then to Linn county, Kansas, where they made their home for five years. Disappointed with conditions as they found them in that state, they returned to Butler county and settled in Wayne township, three miles north of Seven Mile, where the father rounded out a long and honorable career as an agriculturist. Mrs. Jasbring survives him and makes her home at Hamilton and is beloved by all in her community. There were eight children in the family: Jacob, who is engaged in agricultural operations in Hanover township, Butler county; Erasmus; Peter, who follows agricultural pursuits in St. Clair township, this county; Katie, who is deceased; Henry, who carries on farming in St. Clair township; Elizabeth, who is deceased; Amanda; and John, of this review. John Jasbring was still a small child when his parents removed to Kansas, and it was in the public schools of that state that he received his early education. When he was nine years old he was brought back to Ohio, and after completing his education in the schools of Butler county commenced working on the home farm. In 1891, he was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of Abraham Wolverton, a farmer of St. Clair township, now deceased. Mrs. Jasbring has one brother, Wilbur. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Jasbring moved to their present farm, a fine tract of 175 acres, located in St. Clair township. In 1915, after eighteen years of hard and persistent work, Mr. Jasbring purchased the property, and now has one of the best farms in the locality, with the most modern improvements and commodious, substantial and artistic buildings. During the war period he faithfully and generously contributed to the Red Cross, the Liberty Loan and other movements. He is a Democrat in politics, and is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, in which he has numerous friends. He and the members of his family worship in the Presbyterian faith. Mr. and Mrs. Jasbring are the parents of one son: Earl, born in December, 1893, one of the progressive and enterprising young agriculturists of Butler county, residing on the home farm. He married Edith McVicker and has one child, Harold Richard, born August 3, 1919.

Peter Jasbring. Prominent among the energetic, farseeing and successful agriculturists of Butler county, is Peter Jasbring. Integrity, activity and energy have been the crowning points of his career, and his connection with several farming enterprises has been of decided advantage to the communities in which he has lived, promoting their material development in no uncertain manner. Mr. Jasbring was born near Flenners Corner, Butler county, Ohio, October 11, 1863, a son of Frederick and Mary (Rupp) Jasbring, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Hamilton, Ohio. Frederick Jasbring was a young man when he emigrated to the United States, settling first in Butler county and then locating at Middletown. While there he met and married Miss Rupp, whose parents had located in Butler county as farming people on the Middletown pike. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Jasbring went to Flenners Corner, where they resided for a time, subsequently lived near Middletown, and then went to Kansas, where they made their home for five

years in Linn county. Returning to Butler county, they located three miles north of Seven Mile, in Wayne township, where the father rounded out a long and honorable career as an agriculturist and a highly respected and esteemed citizen of his community. Mrs. Jasbring, one of the venerable and greatly esteemed women of her locality, survives him and makes her home at Hamilton. There were seven children in the family, namely: Jacob, engaged in agricultural operations in Hanover township, Butler county; Erasmus; Peter, of this review; Katie, who is deceased; Henry, who is engaged in agriculture in St. Clair township, Butler county; Elizabeth, who is deceased; and John. Peter Jasbring was educated in the public schools of his native community and accompanied his parents to Kansas, whence he returned to Ohio in 1875. He continued as his father's assistant until his marriage, in January, 1894, to Katie, daughter of Andrew and Frances (Voeickle) Wirtley, natives of Germany who were for many years farming people on Seven Mile pike. They are both deceased, and are survived by the following children: Henry, a resident of Dayton; Joseph and John, of Wayne township; Charles, of Trenton; Frank and William, of Wayne township; Katie, who is Mrs. Jasbring; and Sophia, the wife of William Truster, a farmer of Wayne township. Another daughter, Anna, who is deceased, was the wife of William Cunningham. After his marriage, Mr. Jasbring lived north of Seven Mile in Wayne township for one year, and then spent four years on the Cotton Run road, on the S. Beard place. About the year 1900 he located on his present property, which was known as the old Baird homestead. Here he has continued his operations with increasing success, and is accounted one of the skilled and progressive farmers of his locality. He has his 110 acres in a high state of cultivation, and his buildings are substantial and his improvements modern, testifying to his advanced ideas and industry. As a good citizen he has staunchly supported good movements and during the war period generously subscribed to war activities. His political belief makes him a Democrat.

James M. Jewell, one of the highly esteemed residents of Middletown, is now living retired from business cares, having earned his present leisure by years of industry and the practice of thrift. He was born at Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, in 1840, a son of John D. and Jane (Milner) Jewell, both of whom were natives of Hamilton. The paternal grandfather, Elijah Jewell came from Maryland to Butler county, Ohio, probably as early as 1796. Locating at Hamilton, he followed his trade as a millwright there until his death, which occurred in 1858. The maiden name of his wife was Lavina Whitehead, and she was brought to Cincinnati, Ohio, at an early day. Both she and her husband were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and very active in it, assisting in founding that denomination at Hamilton. James M. Jewell was reared under the parental roof, and early taught the dignity of honest labor and the necessity to save money earned through industrious habits. He was given a better educational training than is afforded to some even in these days, and certainly fell to the lot of but few when he was young, as he was sent to Dayton, Ohio, to pursue his studies.

JOHN B. JOHNSTON HUGH CRAMER ELIZABETH (CRAMER) JOHNSTON

Completing them, he went to Maysville, Ky., and while living there enlisted for service in the war between the states in Company I, Sixteenth Kentucky Infantry, and was in the service for three years and some months, after which he was honorably discharged. Returning home, Mr. Jewell became a salesman for the Singer Sewing Machine company, and sold their product over a wide territory for nineteen years, and during that period built up an extensive acquaintance and made many warm personal friends. Leaving the road, Mr. Jewell then established himself in a grocery business at Middletown, conducting it until 1916, when he retired, and since then he has occupied his attention with looking into civic matters, and national policies, being very well posted. In 1865, he was married to Miss Martha Baggs of Montgomery county, Ohio, born June 18, 1845, a daughter of Steven and Nancy (Mahoney) Baggs of Greene county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Jewell have two children, namely: William and Charles, both of whom live at Middletown. Mr. Jewell is a Republican, but has not sought to bring himself before the public as an office seeker, nor has he cared to permit the use of his name on the party ticket. His popularity has always been great. Both he and Mrs. Jewell belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, the same one his grandparents were instrumental in founding. His wife's father lived to be 102 years of age, and when he died had never worn glasses, and had enough of his own teeth to do away with the necessity of false ones. Judging by the alertness and keen intelligence of Mr. Jewell, he bids fair to attain to a ripe old age himself, and as each year adds something to his store of knowledge, longevity on his part will be a distinctive benefit to his community.

John B. Johnston. During a period of nearly a quarter of a century, from the time of his arrival at Oxford in 1889 until his lamented death in 1912, the late John B. Johnston was identified with the lumber industry of Butler county, and became one of the foremost and most highly regarded business men of his day and locality. His was a career in which he demonstrated what manner of success may be gained through adhering to one line of endeavor, for his lumber interests formed his chief and practically only activity during life and to them he gave the best of his energies and abilities, although he engaged in farming for a time. John B. Johnston was born in Preble county, Ohio, and was a member of an old and honored family of that county, a sketch of which will be found in the review of Mr. Johnston's brother, William T. Johnston, elsewhere in this volume. His educational training was secured in the public schools of his native locality, and he was brought up with a respect for honesty and honor which can only be instilled by the influence of God-fearing and earnest Christian people. His boyhood and youth were largely devoted to the tasks to be discharged on the home farm, and he remained under the parental roof until his first marriage, to a Miss Brown, who bore him two children, both of whom are now deceased. Following the death of his first wife, Mr. Johnston was married again, in 1883, to Mrs. Elizabeth (Ramsey) Cramer. She was the widow of H. L. Cramer, of Butler county, Ohio, and the mother of two children by her first marriage: Hugh L., who mar-

ried Bertha Mitchell and has a daughter, Marcia Elizabeth, and makes his home at Oxford; and Joseph L., of Covington, Ohio, who married Fannie Brown and has a son, Hugh L. Mrs. Johnston is a daughter of Thomas and Jane (Steele) Ramsey. The Ramsey family came originally from Virginia to Preble county, Ohio, in 1805, while the Steele family originated in North Carolina and came about the same time to Preble county. Both families located here for a time and the Ramseys still remain, although the Steeles for the most part moved on to Frankfort, Ind. The Ramsey family has an excellent military record, Grandfather Ramsey having been a captain of Ohio State Militia in the War of 1812, while his father was a soldier from Pennsylvania in the Continental line during the Revolutionary war. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston resided on a farm near Morning Sun, Ohio, for six years. During this time Mr. Johnston had made a success of his operations, but recognized the opportunities offered by the lumber interests, and accordingly disposed of his agricultural holdings and moved to Oxford, where he joined his brother, William T. Johnston, in the lumber trade. They remained as partners and proprietors of yards at Oxford, and built up a large and constantly increasing patronage, the association only being terminated by John B. Johnston's death, which occurred June 8, 1912. The business was then conducted by Mr. H. L. Cramer, youngest son of Mrs. Johnston, who later on sold it and bought a farm, which he is now conducting. Mr. Johnston was a man of splendid business qualifications, shrewd and accurate in his judgment, and keen and farsighted in his transactions. In all of his operations he was strictly honorable, and his well known integrity served to give him a place of prominence in the confidence of his associates and the general public.

William T. Johnston, one of the old and honored citizens of Oxford, both in longevity and length of residence, was formerly one of Preble county's most energetic and successful farmers and coal and lumber merchants, but is now passing his declining years in the retirement of private life. He was born in Preble county, Ohio, April 8, 1845, a son of William Johnston, the latter born in 1809, in County Antrim, Ireland, from whence he came to the United States in 1823 with his father, Archibald Johnston. The family formed part of the pioneer settlement of the community of Morning Sun, Preble county, where the grandfather secured land, cleared a farm, made a home, and rounded out his life in the pursuits of the soil. William Johnston grew up in this community, attending the early district schools, and remained on the original home place until his marriage in 1830, when he bought 160 acres of land, which he developed into a good farm, in the clearing of which he was assisted by his brother Archibald. His life was passed in agricultural work, of which he made a success, and his death, in 1879, removed one of the public-spirited and useful citizens of his community, and a faithful member of the United Presbyterian church, which he had joined after leaving the Reformed Presbyterian faith. His wife passed away in 1888. Mr. Johnston was a man highly respected in his community and was a staunch Republican. He and Mrs. Johnston were the

parents of ten children, of whom three are living: Melissa, who is the wife of Edward R. McDill, a retired farmer of Oxford; Margaret, the wife of John Elliot, of College Corner, Ohio; and William T. William T. Johnston obtained his education in the rural schools and at Morning Sun, and remained at home assisting his father until he reached the age of twenty-eight years. At that time he was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of William and Isabella McCreary, natives of Preble county, and early settlers of near Morning Sun, Preble county, and to this union there were born four children: Bessie, who died at the age of twenty-three months; a son who died in infancy; Mabel, the wife of Howard Britton of Newark, N. J., with two children, Isabella and Jeanette; and Jennie, a graduate of Oxford College and a popular teacher in the public schools, who resides with her parents, her mother also being a graduate of that institution. Following his marriage, Mr. Johnston continued to live on the old home place for twelve years, and then came to Oxford, where he established himself in business as the proprietor of a coal and lumber business, with which he was successfully identified for a period of seventeen years. He continued to retain his interest in agricultural affairs during this time, and while he is now retired from active pursuits still has a number of farming interests which he controls with all of his former sagacity and good management. Mr. Johnston has taken a decided interest in civic affairs and has rendered his community valuable public service, having been township trustee for seven years and township treasurer for six years. He has been identified with all movements tending to promote the best interests of his locality, and has made an irreproachable record as a man of strict probity and pure motives. He votes the Republican ticket. By his old neighbors and his fellow townsmen at Oxford he is regarded with the utmost respect and esteem. He and the members of his family belong to the United Presbyterian church.

Reuben F. Jones has had long experience in connection with farm industry in the Miami valley and is today giving exemplification of the full possibilities for successful enterprise along this line in Butler county, where he is conducting vigorous operations in general farming in Fairfield township, considerable attention being given by him to the live stock department of his farm activities. He has under rental a well improved farm of 100 acres, and on this place he has resided continuously since 1892, prior to which he had farmed on other places, which he rented, he having been thus engaged for twenty-six years in Colerain township, Hamilton county, and the following eight years having found him similarly established in Butler county, his present farm, which was owned and developed by the mother of his wife, who was born on this attractive old homestead. Mr. Jones was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, January 26, 1855, and is a son of Reuben F. and Mary Ann (Rogers) Jones, the former of whom was born in North Carolina and the latter in Miami county, Ohio. As a young man Reuben F. Jones, sr., came from the south to Rush county, Ind., where for a short time he was engaged in teaching school, after which he found employment at

farm work. From Indiana he came to Butler county, Ohio, where he was for a time employed in a sawmill. Later he engaged in farming, and with this basic industry he continued his active association until a few years prior to his death. He owned and improved a good farm of 100 acres, in Fairfield township, and was one of the highly esteemed citizens of Butler county. He was twice married, and there were two children born of the first union, Mary Hester and John S. The five children of the second marriage are here named in respective order of birth: James R., William E., Reuben F., jr., Andrew Jackson, and Abraham Lincoln. Reuben F. Jones, jr., whose name initiates this article, passed the period of his childhood and early youth on the old home farm, and was afforded the advantages of the public school at Jones station. After his school days were over he continued to be associated with his father's farm operations until his marriage, in 1883, when he began farming on rented land, his activities from that time forward until his locating on his present farm having been mentioned earlier in this context. Mr. Jones has always taken lively interest in community affairs and has done his part in the furtherances of enterprises and measures projected for the general good. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, but he has not consented to serve in any public office save that of school director. His wife is a zealous member of the Presbyterian church, and in their home county their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances. The year 1883 recorded the marriage of Mr. Jones to Miss Mary L. Jones, who was born in the house they now occupy and who is a daughter of the late M. T. and Elvira A. (Smith) Jones, the former a native of Butler county and the latter of Hamilton county. M. T. Jones followed the carpenter's trade in earlier years and thereafter was a successful farmer, his operations as such having been carried on both in Butler and Hamilton counties. Of his twelve children, six are living: Mary, wife of the subject of this review; Luella, Leroy, Logan and Jesse and Laura. To Mr. and Mrs. Reuben F. Jones have been born three children: Clarence L., who married Miss Pearl Francis, is engaged in farming in Montana; Oliver, who likewise farms in Butler county, married Miss Elmina Luechauer and they have one child, Edna Mae; and Melvin, the youngest of the children, died when about four and one-half years of age.

Jonson Brothers, well known confectioners of Hamilton, located at High street between Second and Third, are natives of the Valley of Sparta, Greece, and have been residents of this country for only a comparatively short period. The brothers received their educational training in the schools of the Valley of Sparta, where they are the owners of considerable property and farming lands, and whence they came to the United States: John, in 1902, Nicholas in 1908, Charles in 1912 and George in 1914. After his coming to Cincinnati, where he settled upon his arrival in this country, John learned the confectionery business, a course which was followed by Nicholas Jonson upon his arrival six years later. In 1910 these two brothers opened a confectionery store at 937 Central avenue, Cincinnati, the firm being known as Jonson Brothers, and this is still owned by

them although managed and operated by a relative. November 23, 1915, Nicholas Jonson came to Hamilton, where he purchased the interest of Peter Vlchos in the confectionery business of Mehas & Vlchos, the firm becoming Mehas & Jonson. April 26, 1918, Nicholas Jonson left Hamilton for Camp Sherman and one month later went with the 331st Infantry for France. Owing to his knowledge of the French language he was promoted to the rank of corporal and served in the capacity of interpreter, seeing eight months of active service overseas. He was sent back to the United States and honorably discharged at Camp Sherman, February 8, 1919, following which he returned to his business at Hamilton. March 1, 1919, Mr. Jonson purchased the interest of his uncle Mehas in the business and admitted his brothers to partnership under the firm style of Jonson Brothers. Since then numerous additions and improvements have been made to the establishment, and, under a policy of honorable dealing and excellence of product the patronage has shown a healthy and gratifying increase. The firm, progressive and public-spirited, belongs to the Retail Merchants association and the Chamber of Commerce, and Nicholas Jonson is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Hamilton Cycle club. The brothers are all unmarried. Their parents, now living in comfortable retirement (the father being sixty years of age and the mother fifty-eight) have every reason to be proud of their sons, who have won their way to success and business position.

William Jordan. In the great army of employees which forms the human machinery used in the operation of the big plant of the American Rolling mills at Middletown are to be found men from many states of the Union. Not all, however, are natives of outside states, for a goodly majority claim the Buckeye state as the place of their nativity, and among these latter is to be found William Jordan, who occupies the position of sheet metal roller. Mr. Jordan was born in Ohio, October 8, 1872, a son of Thomas and Anna (Vail) Jordan, of Niles, Ohio. His maternal grandfather, George Vail, was a native of England who emigrated to the United States at an early day, while on the paternal side his family has been American for a number of generations. Mr. Jordan had two sisters and three brothers: Agnes, one of the sisters, married William Bridgens, of Niles, Ohio, and they are the parents of Leroy, William and Carrie; Elizabeth, the second sister, and now deceased, became the wife of James Trotter. The three brothers were George, Tom and Frank. William Jordan received a public school education, and as a youth began to apply himself to the mastering of the metal worker's trade. Having served his apprenticeship, he spent some years as a journeyman, traveling to different towns and cities, and eventually settled at Middletown permanently, where he has since been connected with the American Rolling mill in his present capacity. Mr. Jordan is an efficient and reliable workman, who has the esteem of his employers and the friendship of his fellow-employees. He is a man of generous instincts and no worthy cause finds him unprepared to make a donation, while his liking for the comradeship of his fellows is shown in his membership in the local lodges of the Fraternal

Order of Eagles and the Order of Elks, in both of which he is very popular. He also is a member of the Amalgamated Association of Metal Workers. In his political adherence he is inclined to favor the Republican party, but in local matters votes rather for the candidate than the party. September 16, 1905, Mr. Jordan was united in marriage with May Milburn Homan, whose ancestors on her mother's side, the Greathouse family, were among the earliest of the pioneer settlers of the Miami valley. One son, William, jr., has been born to this union, he being at present a pupil in the Middletown graded schools. Mr. and Mrs. Jordan own their own pleasant home on Baltimore street, and with them lives Mrs. Jordan's mother, Mrs. Sarah Homan, a widow. The family belongs to the Episcopal church.

C. W. Kaefer, who is favorably known in business circles as secretary and treasurer of the Hamilton Mattress company, has passed his entire business career at Hamilton, where his abilities have been exercised in developing the interests of the company of which he was one of the founders. Mr. Kaefer was born at Hamilton, in 1880, a son of John and Anna Barbara (Winkler) Kaefer. His father was born in Germany and as a lad of twelve years accompanied his parents to the United States, the family locating at Hamilton, where he attended the public schools. Possessing some native mechanical ability he served a full apprenticeship to the machinist's trade at the plant of Owen, Lane & Dyer, and subsequently was with the Niles Tool works and the Phoenix Caster company for eleven years. Later he was identified with the Miami Brass works, and in 1912, became president of the Hamilton Mattress company. He is one of the prominent business men of Hamilton, where his connections are numerous and important in business and social life, while his civic activities have made him a helpful and constructive citizen. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and belongs to St. Paul's church. Mr. Kaefer married Anna Barbara Winkler, of Switzerland, who has two brothers and one sister: John Martin, proprietor of a prosperous grocery at Hamilton; Christian Barber, president of the Hamilton Building and Loan association; and Rosa, who is single and a resident of Hamilton. To Mr. and Mrs. John Kaefer were born five children: C. W.; John George, of Cincinnati; Nettie Louise, of Hamilton; Ida B., and Hildah Catherine, at home. C. W. Kaefer attended the graded schools and the Hamilton High school, and after his graduation from the latter pursued a course at Elmhurst college, Elmhurst, Ill. He then entered business with his father, remaining with the elder man for two years, following which he became a bookkeeper for Frank Schantz, by whom he was employed seven years. Later he was identified with the National Cash Register company, but in 1911, embarked in business on his own account, as one of the founders of the Hamilton Mattress company, at Sixth and Rigdon streets. This business was incorporated September 23, 1912, with the following officials: John R. Schantz, president; John Kaefer, vice-president; and C. R. Kaefer, secretary and treasurer. In addition to high grade mattresses, the company manufactures cotton felt batts for bedding, furniture, automobiles

and carriages, and ships principally throughout Ohio and to points in New York and Pennsylvania. The factory, a modern structure 105x200 feet, is equipped with the latest improved machinery, and offers an ideal place for congenial and comfortable work by the employees, of whom there are fourteen. Mr. Kaefer is looked upon as one of the enterprising, progressive and popular members of his community, where he has numerous friends, and where he has been identified with a number of worth-while civic movements. Mr. Kaefer married Magdalena Weiler and they are the parents of one daughter: Mary Elizabeth. Mr. Kaefer possesses more than local reputation as a vocalist, and has a voice which makes him much in demand at various gatherings, particularly those of the First Presbyterian church at Hamilton, of which he has been a member for years.

George S. Kapp. The growth and development of Butler county has been rapid and sure, and its present general prosperity is due to the efforts of citizens who have been steadfast and earnest in their efforts in behalf of progress. One of the families which has contributed materially to this advancement has been that of Kapp, a worthy representative of which is found in George S. Kapp, the owner of a handsome and valuable farm in Milford township. Mr. Kapp was born on his present farm, a son of Abraham and Hannah (Null) Kapp, the former born on this property and the latter on a farm north of Oxford. He was a son of Samuel and Mary Kapp, from Lancaster county, Pa., who located in Milford township as early as 1837, and had the following children: Abraham, Martin, Eli, John, Samuel, Sarah, Mary A., Frank and William, of whom only Samuel and Sarah survive. The Null family also pioneered into Butler county, and the grandparents had four children: Hannah, Ephraim, Joseph and Amanda. Abraham Kapp was first married to Harriet Stout, by whom he had three children: Charles, of Milford township; Jennie, of Montpelier, Ind.; and Harry, of Milford township. By his second marriage, with Hannah Null, he had two children: Joseph, who is deceased; and George S. After leaving the paternal homestead, which they bought in 1880, Abraham and Hannah Kapp lived for a time at Collinsville, but spent their last years at Somerville, where both passed away in the faith of the Lutheran church. George S. Kapp was educated in the public schools of the towns of Jericho and Somerville, and as a young man entered business at the latter place as proprietor of a butcher shop. Later he took up contracting as a vocation, but in 1909 turned his attention to farming, having purchased this property of 145 acres in 1904. Here he has made numerous valuable improvements, including the erection of a large and substantial barn, and is at present the owner of a handsome and productive country estate. Mr. Kapp was married in 1897 to Cassie, daughter of Cornelius and Sarah Connaroe, of Somerville, who had four other children: William, Katurah, Lillie and one who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kapp are the parents of two children: Eloise, born in 1900, a graduate of high school; and Lawrence, born in 1902, who is attending that school. Mr. Kapp has ever been ready to support good movements in the

interests of his community, and is accounted a substantial and thoroughly reliable citizen, as well as one who has numerous friends in Milford township.

Robert A. Kaser, an energetic and progressive business man and useful and constructive citizen of Middletown and who has spent practically his entire life here and has combined honorable business transactions with a high grade of public service, was born at Wheeling, W. Va., in 1853, a son of John and Anna (Zbinden) Kaser, natives of Switzerland. The parents came to the United States about 1851 and first settled in Virginia, when, in 1858, they came to Middletown, where John Kaser established himself in the grocery business, an enterprise with which he was connected until his death in 1877. His widow survived him until 1901. Robert A. Kaser received a public school education, and at the time of his father's death, in 1877, took over the grocery business which he conducted for several years. Subsequently he disposed of his interests therein and entered the employ of the William Sebald Brewing company, being then with the P. J. Sorg Tobacco company for four years and A. T. Wilson & Co. eight years. For the thirteen years that followed he was identified with the Tytus-Gardner Paper Manufacturing company, but in 1905 left the employ of that concern to become superintendent of the Middletown Hydraulic company, with which he has been associated for the past fourteen years. Mr. Kaser's business interests have been heavy and his time in demand by his private affairs, but he has found time to serve his city and community, ably and conscientiously. He has been a member of the city council; was a member of the school board for an extended period, and for eight years served as township clerk, and in his voting ardently espouses the cause of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church. Mr. Kaser was married in 1878 to Katie, daughter of Jodocus and Margaret (Theobald) Pfeiffer, the former a native of Prussia and the latter of Bavaria, and to this union there were born seven children: Robert J. J.; Erna Elizabeth; William C. and Paul F., deceased; Gertrude M.; Karl E., deceased; and Margaret K. A great sorrow came into Mr. Kaser's life in 1919, when his wife passed away in death. She was a lovely Christian character, an affectionate and sympathetic helpmate and a loving mother, and her many beautiful qualities of mind and heart had bound to her innumerable friends.

O. W. Katz, one of the leading druggists of Hamilton, has spent his whole life in this line of business, and having devoted himself so singleheartedly to it, understands it and the requirements of his trade with a thoroughness not given to all to acquire. He was born at Wapakoneta, Auglaize county, Ohio, October 7, 1860, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Buckel) Katz, both born in Germany. They came to the United States, and after stopping for a time at Cincinnati, Ohio, they went to Pomeroy, Ohio, and finally settled at Wapakoneta, Ohio. The paternal grandfather assisted in the construction of St. Mary's reservoir, located about eleven miles west of Wapakoneta, which is one of the largest

artificial bodies of water in the country, its area being about eleven acres. There were eleven children born to Jacob Katz and his wife, of whom the following three survive: Louisa, who married, has four children, and lives at Fostoria, Ohio; Matilda, who married John Swan, is now a widow; and O. W., whose name heads this review. O. W. Katz was reared in the place of his nativity, and attended its schools. Entering the employ of a druggist of Wapakoneta, Mr. Katz began to learn the drug business, and studied it with various pharmacists in different places until 1890, when he came to Hamilton, and for five years he was engaged with a Doctor Meyers, then a druggist, of Hamilton. Leaving him, Mr. Katz was with Doctor Markt, then a druggist, for fourteen years. Mr. Katz then purchased the drug business at 601 East avenue from Jacob Bonner, and since then has conducted his own store. Here he carries at all times a full and assorted line of drugs and sundries, and enjoys a large and profitable trade. O. W. Katz was married to Alice Stevenson, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Stevenson of Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Katz have two sons. Raymond, the eldest, aged twenty-three years, attended the Hamilton public schools, and was reared at Hamilton. He entered military service May 29, 1918, in the artillery branch, and after having about three months' training in this country, he was sent to France, where he still remains. The younger son, Russell, aged twenty-one years, was graduated from the grammar and high schools of Hamilton, and is now attending the Chicago Academy of Art. While not active in politics, Mr. Katz conscientiously discharges his right of citizenship, and votes the Republican ticket. The family all belong to the First Methodist Episcopal church. For some years Mr. Katz has maintained membership with the Knights of Pythias and the Foresters. Mr. Katz enjoys a reputation for sense and good judgment, and his business has prospered through his alertness and courtesy in behalf of his patrons.

Edward J. Kautz, judge of the municipal court at Hamilton, and formerly a leading member of the Hamilton bar, belongs to an old agricultural family of Brown county, Ohio, which has produced men of great military as well as professional achievement. Among the former may be mentioned Rear Admiral Albert Kautz, who, in March, 1899, while commanding the "Philadelphia," in the Pacific station, took a prominent part in settling the Samoan troubles. After distinguished service as a naval officer, he was retired in 1901. He was born at Georgetown, Brown county, Ohio, in 1839. Not far from the city of Georgetown is the village of Arnheim, in Brown county, and there Edward J. Kautz was born, April 23, 1881, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Bohrer) Kautz, both natives of Brown county. The father was a farmer, also a tobacco dealer and man of general affairs, and at one time was treasurer of Brown county. To his marriage with Elizabeth Bohrer, the following children were born: William, who is a bookkeeper in a railway office at Cincinnati, married Elizabeth Bohl; Luella, who is the wife of Clarence W. Smith, connected with the Cincinnati Traction company at Norwood, Ohio; Harvey, who is a resident

of Georgetown; and Judge Kautz, of Hamilton. The father is deceased but the mother survives and is a resident of Georgetown, where Edward J. Kautz attended the public schools. After completing the high school course he entered the Ohio Northern university, and later spent three years in the law school of the University of Michigan. He entered into practice at Hamilton, Ohio, his legal qualifications advancing him rapidly, and in November, 1917, he was elected municipal judge and is serving in his first term on the bench, where he has shown judicial qualities of a high order. In 1906 he married Frances M., daughter of Frank Theiss, of Georgetown, and they have two children: Samuel, a sturdy little lad of six years; and Margaret, who is nine months old. The family resides at No. 828 Buckeye street, Hamilton. Judge Kautz has always been identified with the Democratic party. During the late war he took an active part in advancing the different patriotic movements. He has a wide acquaintance in the state and is connected with a number of fraternal organizations, these including: the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Eagles, Moose, Ben Hur and Mutual Monkeys.

John Kehr. Well up on the list of substantial farmers carrying on operations in Butler county is found the name of John Kehr, an intelligent representative of his vocation and a public-spirited citizen of his community in Wayne township. His entire career has been passed in Butler county and no other vocation has held out sufficient attractions to entice him from the tilling of the soil, an occupation in which he has found both contentment and prosperity and the means of establishing himself firmly in the confidence of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Kehr was born on a farm in Oxford township, Butler county, Ohio, March 17, 1877, a son of Philip and Mary (Willer) Kehr. His parents, natives of Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1872, locating near Hamilton, Ohio, where for several years the father worked as a farm hand on the property of Charles Sohngen. Having thus gathered together the means wherewith to establish himself as a farmer on his own account, Mr. Kehr moved to Oxford township, although for sixteen years he was compelled to operate merely as a renter, his capital not being sufficient for him to buy a property of his own. Later he lived on the Schwartz farm for nine years, but eventually was able to buy a farm of 125 acres, on the Eaton road, in Wayne township, on which he carried on operations during the remainder of his life. An industrious man, he patiently and persistently worked toward a given end, and his reward was the accumulation of a substantial property, for when he died in October, 1917, at the age of seventy-two years, he was accounted one of the well-to-do farmers of his locality. He was an honest, God-fearing man and attended church services at Hamilton. His widow, who survives him, resides with her children on the old home place. The children are: Mary, John, Louise, Freda, Emma and Fred. The district schools of Oxford township furnished John Kehr with the somewhat limited education that he acquired. During his boyhood his father was only a renter, working earnestly in an endeavor to acquire property of his

own, and the youth was called upon to do his full share in contributing to the family finances. As a result his boyhood and young manhood were filled with much hard work and little recreation, but he came to learn the dignity of hard labor and the value of money, something that has helped him considerably in his subsequent career. Mr. Kehr resided at home until his marriage, at the age of twenty-seven years, to Mary, daughter of John L. and Christina (Bensing) Kilian, of Hamilton. The parents of Mrs. Kehr were born in Germany and upon their arrival in the United States located in Hamilton, near which city they took up farm land. The father, however, secured a position with the Niles Tool works, at Hamilton, and in his declining years moved to Dayton, where he lived retired. Mrs. Kehr has one brother, Carl, a merchant of Charlotte, N. C., who married Hazel Howe. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kehr: Edna Mary, Edward Philip, Arthur John, Elsie Martha, Paul Frederick William, John Christian and Freda Louise. After his marriage, Mr. Kehr located on the Beardsley farm north of Hamilton, Ohio, on which he carried on operations for nine years, and in the fall of 1912 took up his residence on his present property, the old Pottenger place in Wayne township, a tract of 100 acres. Mr. Kehr has made many valuable improvements on this property, on which he carries on general farming and raises some cattle, mixed hogs and draft horses. He is considered a thoroughly well informed and skilled agriculturist, and his reputation among his associates is one that makes his name an honored one on commercial paper. He votes the Republican ticket, and he and the members of his family belong to Zion Evangelical Lutheran church of Hamilton.

C. R. Keller, M. D., of Hamilton, Ohio, was born in this city, and is the son of John A. and Cami M. Keller, both natives of Hamilton. John A., the father, is a mechanical engineer for The Black-Clawson company of this city. Doctor Keller received his early education in the schools of Hamilton, graduating from the high school in 1902. He then entered the Miami Medical college, finished the four year course and received his degree from that institution in 1906. Entering the general hospital of Cincinnati he served as an interne for eighteen months. After leaving the general hospital he became first medical assistant at the Long View hospital, which position he held for one year. In 1909 he came to Hamilton and opened an office for the practice of his profession, which practice he has continued with increasing success. In 1913, he married Grace Evelyn Spangler of Cincinnati, and to them were born three daughters: Carolyn, Jane and Dorothy. Doctor Keller is a member of the Butler county, Ohio, State and American Medical societies, a member of both the Masonic and K. of P. lodges and of the United Presbyterian church. He has no political affiliation, being an independent voter.

Jacob Keller. While twenty years have passed since the death of Jacob Keller, this sterling citizen and industrious farmer of Milford township is still well remembered by many of Butler county's older residents. For thirty-one years he lived and labored

on the old Keller homestead, and during that period established a record for upright living and good citizenship. He was born in Milford township, May 20, 1836, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Spoon) Keller, of Lancaster county, Pa. His parents had come to this locality in true pioneer style, making the journey in a wagon and arriving at their destination after a trip of several weeks. Settling in the woods, they erected a log cabin and small log stable, set about clearing the land, and eventually established a valuable property and a comfortable home. In their declining years they retired and moved to Somerville, where the father died at the age of seventy-two years, Mrs. Keller having passed away some time previously. They were members of the German Reformed church, and the parents of nine children: John, who married Elizabeth Meredith and made his home at Stanford, Ind.; Samuel, who spent most of his life in Milford township, but died at Somerville, in 1914, married, first, Rebecca Grimes, second, Mary Greenfield, and third, Elizabeth Tooker, the last-named being at present a resident of Somerville; Solomon, who lived for many years at Oxford, Ohio, but died at Somerville, married, first, Elizabeth Geer and second, Mrs. Catherine Steele; Susan, deceased, who was the wife of the late Reuben Moore; Sarah, deceased, who was the wife of Levi McCormick; Kate, who died young; Jacob; George, deceased, who married Mary Murray, also deceased, and lived for years in Preble county, Ohio; and Henry, the father of Oliver Keller of Somerville, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this volume. For his second wife, Jacob Keller, sr., married in March, 1888, Barbara, widow of Philip Shire. Her first husband was born in Germany and in young manhood came to the United States and located at Trenton, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming. Later in life he drove through to Iowa in a wagon and after a trip of four weeks arrived at his destination near West Point. There he secured a farm and settled down to agricultural pursuits, but died one year later. Mrs. Keller was born in Germany and was a young woman when she accompanied her father to the United States. The family settled at Miltonville, Ohio, in which locality Mrs. Keller's father continued to be engaged in farming during the rest of his life. He had two daughters: Mrs. Keller; and Margaret, the widow of Lewis Myers, of Kokomo, Ind. Jacob Keller, the younger, received his education in the home schools, which he attended only during the short winter terms, the summers being passed in assisting his father on the home farm. He was married in August, 1859, to Elizabeth Shires, who was born near Trenton, Ohio, and after marriage they located east of Somerville, Ohio, where they resided for nine years. In 1868 they removed to the old Keller homestead in Milford township, and there Mr. Keller continued to be engaged in farming until his death, April 21, 1899, he being buried at Oxford cemetery. In politics Mr. Keller was a Democrat, and his religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he attended at Oxford. He was a man of high principles and excellent character, and well merited the respect and confidence in which he was held. He and Mrs. Keller became the parents of three children: Emma M.

Annie Mary and George W. Emma M. Keller married Samuel Coulter, who was born in Milford township, a son of John Coulter, and always lived as a farmer in that township, where his death occurred in August, 1899. There were two children in the family: Roy E., a farmer of Oxford township, who married Mabel Bryant; and Lynn Nelson, who died at the age of three and one-half years; Annie Mary Keller has never married, and continues to make her home with her aged mother on the homestead in Milford township, a devoted daughter and excellent housekeeper. George W. Keller has always been a farmer on the homestead, where he now resides, a good manager and skilled agriculturist. He married Carrie Mendenhall, and they have three children: Glen Mendenhall; Frank Donald, who served in the 72d Field Artillery, at Camp Knox; and Lois Elizabeth. Mrs. Jacob Keller, who survives her husband and lives on the homestead, is an old and well-known resident of this community and during her long residence here has made and maintained numerous friends.

Oliver Keller. Preble county is largely agricultural, but its prosperous towns, its many manufactories, its schools and its churches prove that a vigorous life underlies every activity, although here, as in every section of the earth, dependence is naturally placed upon the products of the land and the labor of those who cultivate it. It makes no difference in what way men toil, or how much they achieve in any direction, they must all be fed, and it is the farmer, in the background, who furnishes the food products. In Preble and the other counties of the Miami valley country, there are found numerous contented owners of land, who intelligently and willingly carry on the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. They are usually men of strong intellect and sturdy body, qualified for public service, for the proper cultivation of the soil and a realization of its utmost yield require knowledge of many subjects. One of the younger generation of agriculturists of Preble county, who however makes his home at Somerville, in Butler county, is Oliver Keller. Mr. Keller was born on a farm in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, September 22, 1871, a son of Henry Keller. His paternal grandfather was John Keller, a native of Lancaster county, Pa., who was an early settler of Milford township, Butler county, and there passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits. His children were: John, Jacob, Solomon, George, Henry, Samuel and Sarah. Henry Keller grew to manhood in Milford township, where he married Sarah Conarroe, also of that township. After their marriage they located on a farm near Seven Mile, section 6, Milford township, but subsequently went to Preble county. Three years later they returned to Milford township, but finally located at Somerville, where the mother died in 1906, at the age of sixty years, while the father passed away in June, 1911, when sixty-seven years of age. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Keller was a Democrat in his political adherence. There were six children in the family: John, born in 1869, a farmer in Milford township, who married Cora Smith; Oliver; Oscar, born in 1884, a farmer of Preble county; Iva, who married Edward Men-

denhall, a farmer of Wayne township, Butler county; Lela, the wife of Edgar L. Inman, an undertaker of Somerville; and Ruth, who married Charles Garrett and lives near Gratis, Ohio. Oliver Keller received his education in the public schools of his home community, and resided with his parents until reaching the age of twenty years. At that time he and his brother, John, took over the management and operation of the old home place, which they conducted for one year, and then spent a like period in farming for their father. They then went to Preble county, one mile north of Somerville, and farmed in that community from the spring of 1896 until 1908. At that time Oliver Keller took up his residence at Somerville, where he has since made his home. January 30, 1901, he married Nettie, daughter of Charles and Letty Falk, of Preble county, and a granddaughter of Jacob and Louisa Falk, natives of Germany and early settlers of Somerville. The grandparents had three children: Jacob, Sallie and Charles. Charles Falk was a farmer in Preble county, where he passed his career, and died in September, 1895, his widow surviving until 1909. They were members of the Presbyterian church, and Mrs. Keller their only child. To Mr. and Mrs. Keller there has come one daughter, Martha, born May 6, 1907. While he has made his home at Somerville since 1908, Mr. Keller still is the owner of a valuable farm of 160 acres in Preble county, on which he carries on mixed farming and stock raising. Naturally progressive and capable, he brings to his work energy, enthusiasm and the kind of ability that has been developed through study and experience, and modern methods and ideas govern his actions. He has put good improvements on his property and his farm presents an attractive appearance, as well as being made more valuable by the presence of substantial buildings. Mr. Keller is a director in the Somerville National bank. He votes the Democratic ticket at elections, and has discharged the duties of citizenship when called upon to serve in public office, having acted for several years as a member of the local board of school directors, and is also a member of the city council. Mrs. Keller is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church.

Edward Kemp, who is one of the substantial and reliable representatives of the agricultural industry of the northeastern corner of Butler county, belongs to a family that has long been well and favorably known in this locality, and is the owner of property which was secured by its members from the United States Government. He was born on this homestead, a son of Jacob and Mary (Zehring) Kemp, natives of Berks county, Pa., who as young married people came from the Keystone state and located in Butler county, taking up a land claim from the Government. There they rounded out peaceful and useful careers, living content in the esteem of their neighbors and in the prosperity which they gained as a reward of industry and right living. Edward Kemp attended the district schools, where he was given his educational training, and remained on the home farm, where he contributed to the comfort of his parents during their declining years. At the time of his father's death he took over the property, which consists of 200 acres, and

since then has made a number of improvements which have added greatly to both its appearance and value. He carries on general farming operations, and his efforts have resulted in the gaining of success and his attainment of a position among the substantial agriculturists of his community. He is a believer in modern methods and avails himself of the benefits derivable from the use of improved machinery. In business circles, Mr. Kemp is known as a man of integrity, and his standing is accordingly high. Mr. Kemp has reared several nieces to womanhood, one of whom, Miss Mabel Farris, was sent by him to Miami college, Oxford, O., where she studied Liberal Arts. Mr. Kemp is a Democrat and has been selected by his fellow-citizens to fill several positions as a public servant, having acted in the capacity of township trustee and member of the school board. He is a member of the Baptist church, in the work of which he takes a helpful interest, and in several other ways fills an important place in the life of the community in which he has spent his entire career. Miss Emma Kemp, a most cultured woman and one whom it is a pleasure to meet, lives with her brother Edward and keeps house for him.

Robert H. Kemp. Prominent among the young business men of Hamilton who have worked their own way to positions of business importance and substantiality is found Robert H. Kemp, proprietor of the Hamilton Welding & Manufacturing company. Mr. Kemp belongs to the class that is known as self-made, for he entered upon his career with only his own resources of ability, determination and ambition to assist him, and with these as capital has eventually established himself among the men who are making business history at the county seat of Butler county. Mr. Kemp was born in 1885, at Union City, Ind., a son of Joshua Kemp, of Randolph county, Ind., who was an educator all his life and died in his native state at the age of seventy-four years. Professor Kemp married Rachael Fields, also of Randolph county, who died in 1889, and of their eleven children, seven are living. Robert H. Kemp attended the home schools of Randolph county, Ind., and received further instruction under the tuition of his father. He was an industrious and ambitious lad, and early became at least partly self-supporting, for when he was only fourteen years of age he started to learn the wagon wheel maker's trade, a vocation which he followed for some years. When he was twenty-one years old he determined upon another course of action, which caused him to learn the trade of moulder, an occupation which he followed as an employee of the Hamilton Foundry and Machine company for seven years. In 1913 he embarked in business in partnership with A. D. Stucky and C. E. Freeman, under the style of Hamilton Welding & Manufacturing company, the plant being located at Chestnut street and the C., H. & D. railroad tracks. This association continued with a moderate degree of success for one and one-half years, but it was found at that time, at least, that there was not sufficient profit in it for three partners, and Mr. Kemp bought out his associates and enlarged the business. He continued with increasing success at the same location until December, 1918, when

he moved his business to its present location, at 121 N. B street, in the plant formerly occupied by the National Caster company. Mr. Kemp was married in 1904, the year of his arrival at Hamilton, to Gertrude Glunt, of Union City, Ind., and they are the parents of two sons: Clem Eugene, aged thirteen years; and Robert Emerson, aged five years. Mr. Kemp is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, in which he has numerous friends. He has a number of civic connections, as well as affiliations with big business interests, and is vice-president of the Hamilton Thermometer Works. His religious faith is that of the Methodist church, while Mrs. Kemp belongs to the Christian church.

Clarence Kennedy, one of the highly respected men of Hamilton who is now living retired from further participation in business life, was formerly active along several varied lines, and has always been connected with the best element in his community. He was born at Hamilton, Ohio, August 11, 1845, a son of Charles R. Kennedy, who was born in England, December 17, 1910, and was there reared and taught the trade of a tailor by his father. As a journeyman, Charles R. Kennedy traveled all over the British Isles, and became an expert cutter, although in the meanwhile, while only nineteen years old, he came to the United States, and after a period spent in Delaware, he came to Ohio, and was at Dayton for a time, subsequently settling permanently at Hamilton. While living at Dayton, he was married to a Miss Lane, who died a year later. Following his location at Hamilton, he was married (second) to Jane Rich, July 26, 1836. She was a daughter of Capt. William Rich, who conducted a blacksmith shop on Main and C streets, Hamilton, and there he carried on a large business and also dealt in coal. He had been born in Pennsylvania, where he was reared and married to a Miss Blue. After their marriage, Captain and Mrs. Rich came overland to Ohio, the trip taking many weeks, and located at Hamilton. Captain Rich died August 27, 1848, aged seventy-six years. His wife died in Delaware county, Ohio. Their children were as follows: William, Lucinda, Mary, Jane, Emma, John and Caroline. After he came to Hamilton, Charles R. Kennedy opened a tailoring establishment and received a large patronage, but as it was so difficult to get assistants, he was put to a great deal of trouble to complete his orders. More than once he walked to Cincinnati to try and find helpers. Because of this shortage of labor, he was forced to work at night, and so strained his eyes that eventually he became blind. After he was well settled in the new world, two brothers and a sister joined him, they being as follows: James, who became a plumber of Cleveland, Ohio, served in the 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war; Hiram, who served as a lieutenant of cavalry in the regular army during the Civil war; and Mary, who died at Delaware, Ohio. The second wife of Charles R. Kennedy, the mother of Clarence Kennedy, died October 31, 1858, aged forty-one years, having borne her husband six children, namely: Charles, who was a druggist of Hamilton; William, who was killed at the battle of Perryville, while serving

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in the Union Army during the Civil war; James, who was a druggist, died March 10, 1860; Clarence, whose name heads this review; Mary, who died February 17, 1854; Alice, who died June 6, 1853. After the death of his second wife, Charles R. Kennedy was married (third) to Kate Bruck of Ohio. Clarence Kennedy attended the public schools of his native city, and was self-supporting from childhood, selling papers when a boy, and later learned the machinist trade. He went with Owen, Lane & Dyer of Hamilton, manufacturers of saw mills, portable and stationary engines and threshing machines, and was with this company for fifteen years, and for the subsequent fifteen years was with the Long-Allstatter company, also of Hamilton. Owing to an attack of rheumatism, Mr. Kennedy was then forced to stop working at his trade, so entered the Hamilton postoffice, and for seventeen years was a letter carrier and for eight years carried a rural route. At the expiration of the latter period of years, he retired, leaving the govenment service January 19, 1915. August 7, 1909, Mr. Kennedy was united in marriage with Flora May Dillon, born at Hamilton, Ohio, a daughter of John and Martha Jane (Hull) Dillon, he was born at Trenton, Ohio, and she at Reily, Butler county. John Dillon was a son of Samuel Dillon, born in Butler county, Ohio, a son of Samuel Dillon, who was born in Ireland, but came to Butler county, Ohio, locating near Trenton. All of the earlier members of the Dillon family were Old School Baptists. John Dillon settled in Milford township, Butler county, and was engaged in farming, but later, he moved to Hamilton and established a tile factory, building up a large business, specializing on making drain tile. His plant was located on the present site of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy. Still later, he built a feed mill, and was successful in operating that, and in his last years he did a good deal of gardening, being so active he felt he had to keep himself occupied. After the death of his first wife, September 28, 1884, Mr. Dillon was married (second) to Mrs. Harriet Cornelia Gard, of Indiana, who died December 15, 1899, he having died in 1898, aged seventy-four years. By his first marriage, John Dillon had the following children: Eliza Ellen, who married Joseph D. Millspaugh, lives at Milwaukee, Wis.; Mary Emma, who married Harry T. Barry, lives at Hamilton, Ohio; Lewis A., who was surveyor of Butler county, and city civil engineer for nineteen years, now lives at No. 617 Park avenue, Hamilton; and Flora May, who is Mrs. Kennedy. During the Civil war, Mr. Kennedy served his country as a soldier, enlisting in 1862, in the 88th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In order to do so, he ran away from home to Columbus, Ohio, and offered himself at Camp Chase. Taking sick, he was discharged for disability, and returned home. In 1864, he re-enlisted in Company E, 167th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Lewis. Mr. Kennedy is a member of the Episcopal church, and his wife belongs to the First Presbyterian church. Mrs. Kennedy also belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps, the Eastern Star, and other fraternities. For over twenty-five years Mr. Kennedy played the cornet in the Apollo band of Hamilton. He is a staunch Republican, and was one of the

most enthusiastic admirers of President McKinley, whom he accounted as one of his personal friends. Mr. McKinley always called him by his first name. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy are very fine people, and are liked by a wide circle of friends. They have had the right ideals of life, and the courage to live up to them, and their influence in their community has always been for good.

George L. Keppler. There is much of an attractive nature to be found in the history of the career of a young man who starts out in life handicapped in a number of ways, without capital or influence, and who, notwithstanding these obstacles, pushes manfully toward the goal of success which he has set before him. Such a man was the late George L. Keppler, who, from small beginnings so exercised his talents and native abilities that he rose to be one of the substantial and highly respected citizens of Butler county. Mr. Keppler was born in Germany, May 31, 1847, and received only a common school education in the country of his birth, where he started life as a factory hand. His outlook for the attainment of success did not seem very bright to the ambitious and determined youth, and accordingly, at the age of eighteen years, he decided to come to the United States, confident that here he could find the opportunities that had before then been denied him. Arriving at New York in 1865, he made his way to Hamilton, where he found friends of the family who secured him employment on a farm in Milford township. Later for two years he was similarly employed at Millville, then moving to Darrtown, where he met and married Margaret Smith, who was born near Seven Mile, Butler county, a daughter of Frederick and Barbara Smith, natives of Germany. Frederick Smith had come to the United States in young manhood and located near Seven Mile with his parents, and had subsequently entered upon his independent career as a gardener, this vocation being cast aside when he developed into a full-fledged farmer. He continued to be actively interested in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his life and died on his valuable farm at the age of sixty years, his widow surviving him some time and being seventy years old at the time of her demise. His home place was in Milford township, where Mrs. Keppler now resides, and where he was widely known as a man of good heart, of sound integrity and of public-spirited citizenship. He and his good and worthy wife were consistent members of St. John's Lutheran church at Hamilton, the movements of which they supported generously. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Keppler settled on the Smith farm, where Mr. Keppler continued to carry on operations throughout the remainder of his life, and where his death occurred in January, 1915. He was a skilled and progressive farmer, combining practical methods with modern ideas in a way that brought about excellent results, and his standing in the confidence of the public was high as his dealings were always carried on in an honorable and straightforward manner. As a voter he supported the principles and candidates of the Democratic party, and on a number of occasions was himself chosen as the incumbent of public office, the duties of which he discharged in an entirely capable, satisfactory and conscientious

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manner. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran church, to which all the members of the family belong. Mr. and Mrs. Keppler were the parents of five children. William F., the eldest, was educated in the home schools and has devoted his life to farming and running a threshing outfit, being at present the operator of the home farm, which he manages for his mother. The second child died in infancy. Frank Edward, the third in order of birth, was also educated in the home schools, and is now successfully engaged in farming operations in Milford township. He married Nellie Barnes, and is the father of two sons,—John and Harold. The fourth child, Addie, married Henry Popst, a farmer south of Darrtown, in Butler county, and has two sons,—Fred and Sherley. Pearl, the youngest of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Keppler, is the wife of William Wiley, a farmer of Hanover township. The home farm, located in Milford township, consists of 260 acres, all under a high state of cultivation, and here under Mrs. Keppler's direction and her son's capable supervision general farming is done and some stock is raised, and the manner in which the property is handled leaves no doubt as to the presence of able management. Mrs. Keppler is one of the highly esteemed ladies of her community, where she has made her home for so long, and where she has been active in church and charitable work and in the movements which have added to the progress of the locality and to the well-being and happiness of its people.

Frank Kerbel, who has been a resident of Hamilton, Ohio, for over half a century, has been very generally connected with those agencies that bring about growth and development in a city, as typified in progressiveness, public spirit and substantial business policies. For many years proprietor of large and well equipped hotels, he became well and favorably known to the traveling public and it is safe to say that few men over the country have a wider casual acquaintance, many of these ripening into warm friendships. During his long career as hotelkeeper, on many occasions he has had some of the most distinguished men of the times as his guests. Mr. Kerbel was born in Bavaria, Germany, October 6, 1840. His father was a substantial blacksmith in Bavaria and a man of public consequence, serving for twelve years as burgomaster in his district. Frank Kerbel was well brought up and as the son of a burgomaster, had excellent educational advantages in youth, afterward entering the German army and serving five years. He was twenty-six years old when he came to the United States, one member of the family being the grandfather, Peter Kerbel, who was a resident of Hamilton for thirty-two years. In Germany Frank Kerbel had learned the blacksmith trade, and after coming to Hamilton he worked for nine years in the foundry of Long, Black & Allstatter, in the scythe and sickle department. In 1875 he started in the hotel business, establishing the Farmers hotel, on North Monument avenue, where he remained nine years, then sold, and in May, 1886, purchased a building on the corner of Front and Court streets. This was an ideal location for business and under his improving and remodeling of the five-story building, the corner became one of the most attractive parts of the business

district. When ready to open the second Farmers hotel, Mr. Kerbel had fine accommodations, a big dining room, a bar, well arranged kitchens, sixty bedrooms, and a stable in connection that offered facilities to the farmers and he had all the farmer trade. It was said that Mr. Kerbel was the only hotel keeper that had ever been able to make the business profitable at Hamilton. In the memorable flood of 1913 his actual loss amounted to $40,000, but he continued in business until in May, 1916, when he retired disposing of the business to his son-in-law, August Iskie. Mr. Kerbel still owns the building and has other valuable improved real estate here. In 1867 he married Helena Gluck, who was born in Germany and died at Hamilton in 1884, the mother of six children, two of whom are living, namely: Louise, who is the wife of August Iskie, and they have five children; and Mary, who is the wife of Charles Troutman, of Cincinnati, a former wine merchant. Mr. Kerbel's second marriage took place in December, 1885, to Maggie Weisbrodt. Their three children are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kerbel are members of St. Stephen's church. The family residence is No. 202 S. Front street, Hamilton, Ohio.

Thomas H. Kerns. The connection of Thomas Henry Kerns with the agricultural interests of Butler county covers a long period of years and includes varied experiences all culminating in well won success. At the present time he is one of the substantial residents of the Middletown community, where he is accounted a citizen of worth and public spirit. Mr. Kerns was born in Berkeley county, Virginia (now West Virginia), and is a son of Henry and Rebecca (Hammond) Kerns. His father, born October 11, 1815, passed away in March, 1873, and his mother, born in May, 1820, died in 1871. There were ten children in the family, of whom five survive: John W., Thomas Henry, Charles, James and Albert. July 4, 1875, Mr. Kerns married Catherine Weikel, and to this union there were born five children: Anna E., Willard, Cameron, Walter Hammond and Clara May, the last-named of whom resides at home. Mr. Kerns is a man of superior intelligence and has served his community well for a number of years as a member of the board of directors of the Kumler school. He and the members of his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church at Seven Mile.

Frank Kinch. A leading contractor in cement work at Hamilton, Ohio, Frank Kinch is a good type of self-made manhood and a citizen of repute and standing in his community. He was born at Hamilton, April 15, 1858, a son of George and Eliza (Brereton) Kinch, natives of County Roscommon, Ireland, who emigrated to the United States in June, 1850, and located at Hamilton. The father conducted a dray line during the rest of his life and died April 20, 1882, his widow surviving until April 6, 1890, and both were faithful members of the United Presbyterian church. They had six children: John, born in Ireland, connected with a circus for a number of years, and later engaged in the candy manufacturing business at Hamilton until his death; George, who operated a moving wagon until his death at the age of twenty-six years; Robert, deceased, a moulder, who married Mattie Mathews, now a

resident of California; William, a bridgetender at Hamilton; Frank; and Susan, the wife of Squire Martin of Hamilton. After attending the public schools of Hamilton, Frank Kinch joined his brother John in the manufacture of candy at Hamilton, but subsequently took up newspaper work, as the first pressman for the Republican News, a publication with which he continued to be connected for two years. At that time he embarked in business taking contracts for cement work, a line with which he has continued to be identified ever since, and in which he has achieved a satisfying success. Mr. Kinch has served in several public capacities, having been a member of the police force six years and of the fire department five years, and also acted as county commissioner four years. He is a staunch Democrat in his political views. His career has not been entirely one of unalloyed success, for he has at times met with reverses, particularly in the flood of 1913, when he suffered heavy losses, but after each setback has only worked the harder, with the result that he has obtained an enviable reputation in business circles. He is widely known in fraternal circles, among others belonging to the Elks; the Eagles, of which he is a charter member; the Loyal Order of Moose, of which he is also a charter member; the Improved Order of Red Men; the West Side Aid society; and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his wife are members of the Knights and Ladies of Security. Mrs. Kinch belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, while he belongs to the United Presbyterian church. Mr. Kinch was married to Elizabeth Becker, of Hamilton, who died March 16, 1890, leaving one son, Walter F., a machinist of Hamilton, who married Lillian Mauer, and has a son, Earl. He also has a stepson, Arthur Becker, also a moulder, who is married and has two children,—Margaret and Shirley. April 19, 1892, Mr. Kinch was united in matrimony with Matilda, a sister of his first wife, and daughter of Valentine and Mary (Grossberger) Becker, natives of Germany who came to America single and located at Hamilton. Mr. Becker was a foreman woodworker at Hamilton, but later went to Lawrenceburg, Ind., subsequently returning to Hamilton, where he died April 1, 1899, his widow surviving until December 11, 1901. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the parents of six children: Rose, the wife of Christian Link of Hamilton; John, of Dayton; Paul, of Cleveland; Sadie, wife of W. C. Hoffman, of Hamilton, clerk of the Butler county court; Elizabeth, the first Mrs. Kinch; and Matilda, the present Mrs. Kinch. Mr. and Mrs. Kinch have had the following children: Paul, educated in the high school of Hamilton, worked for the county surveyor, was engaged in concrete work at West Middletown with the Duersch Coal company, and was then associated with his father until his enlistment April 26, 1918, in the army, where he made an excellent record. The following are a few of the interesting facts of this record: Leaving Camp Sherman he went to Camp Merritt, N. J., thence to Montreal, Canada, where he embarked on the English freighter Nankin and started on his journey overseas to France, which proved to be a very pleasant one. Like all soldiers who entered the service of Uncle Sam, he

saw many strenuous days, his time being occupied in drilling, marching and in engagements with the enemy. We herewith mention a few of the most interesting facts in which he was concerned while overseas. He was greeted by an Italian princess in Trent; was in parade at Milan; passed in review before the King of Italy on one of the famous old battlefields; also participated in the drive across Piave front and assisted in the capture of Codroiko and the taking of thousands of prisoners. After the signing of the armistice moved on to Austria; was in a hospital at Padova; was chosen as honor guard for President Wilson while abroad. He also delivered a message to him while at the Quirinal palace. Acted as page at the home of the American ambassador where President Wilson and his party were guests at a dinner, and assisted in getting in readiness for shipment the President's effects. While in Italy he visited Bologna, Florence, Genoa, Milan, Rome and Naples. At the latter place took the incline car up to Mt. Vesuvius and descended into the crater. The points of interest visited while in Rome were the Vatican, the catacombs, Appian Way, the Forum, the Colosseum, St. Peters and St. Paul, thence to Pompeii for a short stay. Starting for home March 29, 1919, on board the Duca D'Osta he arrived in New York harbor April 14, and crossed the river to Camp Merrit. After the necessary sanitary examination he left for Camp Sherman, where he received his honorable discharge May 5, 1919. He was educated in the public schools, and now a foreman machinist with Hooven, Owen & Rentschler, at Hamilton; Donald, at home; Dorothea, deceased; and Russell, at home.

Andrew P. King, a successful and enterprising farmer and the owner of a 292-acre farm lying in Reily township, was born in Butler county, on the old home place, a son of Samuel King, born in 1824, the latter being a son of Dr. Andrew King. Dr. Andrew King was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and a man of splendid education. He studied medicine at Edinburgh, Scotland, and on coming to the United States in 1832, settled in Reily township, and in addition to cultivating and developing a farm, practiced medicine and conducted a general store. Through his various activities he became widely known and was accounted one of his community's foremost men and a practitioner whose labors were both skilled and unselfish. He was twice married, and he and both his wives were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. All of his children were by his first wife, who bore the maiden name of Grace Wallace, namely: Rebecca, who lived in Indiana; Sarah, who was a resident of Reily township; John, who remained single and lived at home; James, who lived in Indiana; Margaret and Martha, who both died single; Samuel, the father of Andrew P.; and Mary, who died small. Samuel King secured his education in the district schools, and resided on the home farm in his youth and young manhood. He married Mary Ellen Port, of Reily township, daughter of Samuel and Jane Port, of Ireland, early settlers of Reily township, where Mr. Port was a farmer throughout his life. They had eight children: William, who lived in Indiana, Illinois and Kansas, and died in the last-named state; Richard, John and James, who all went to Kansas and died

there; Andy, who went to Kansas and later to California, but later returned to Kansas, where he died; Samuel, who died at home; Mary Ellen, who became Mrs. King; and Elizabeth, who became the wife of Frank Blacker and lived in Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee. Samuel King continued as a farmer and a moderate raiser of stock all of his life, and was a man well known and highly respected. He was a Republican, and he and Mrs. King were faithful members of the Presbyterian church at Reily, Ohio. Of their seven children, only three are living: Carrie Elizabeth, who has always made her home on the old King farm; Henry Morton, formerly a miner and storekeeper of Dawson City, Alaska, and now a merchant and real estate operator of Seattle, Wash., who married Ellen McClure; and Andrew P. Andrew P. King went to the home schools while assisting his father in the work of the farm, and grew up amid agricultural scenes, so that it was but natural that he should adopt farming as his life work when he reached man's estate. He married Florence Jenkins, of Peoria, Ind., a daughter of Wilson and Susan (Smith) Jenkins, of Franklin county, Ind., farming people, who are both now deceased. Mrs. King died in the spring of 1910, leaving the following children: Ellis, an operator in the oil fields of Wyoming; Paul, who is engaged in operations on a part of the old home place, married Elizabeth Lemon and has four children, Jack, Mary Ellen, William F. and Pattie Lee; Emma, who died young; Dorothea, who died at the age of ten years; and William, who always lived on the old place and died in 1909. Andrew P. King was a farmer throughout his active life, but has practically retired although he still makes his home on the 292-acre tract. He is a Republican in politics and a public-spirited and useful citizen.

George W. King. The opportunity has been given to some individuals to assist in the development of the country, to shape their surroundings according to their needs, and to be factors in the advancement and elevation of standards along material lines. Butler county is the home of many men who have worked out their own destiny and while doing so have contributed to the progress of their communities, and in this connection it is well to mention George W. King, the owner of a valuable farm in Oxford township, and a man who has played his part in the agricultural development of this locality. Mr. King was born on a farm southwest of the one which is his present home, February 11, 1868, a son of William and Margaret (Johnson) King, a review of whose lives will be found elsewhere in this work, in the sketch of William King. After attending the district schools of Oxford township, he pursued a course at Oxford High school, and then returned to the home place where he applied himself to the task of assisting his father in the development of the home acres. Mr. King resided under the parental roof until February 8, 1899, when he was united in marriage with Nora, daughter of Leonard and Mary Ann (Gates) Farr and granddaughter of John and Susan (Knotts) Farr, early residents of Franklin county, Ind., who later lived in Union county in the same state. They had eleven children, of whom seven reached maturity, and among the latter, Leonard, Henry and Caleb fought as soldiers of the Union

during the war between the North and the South, while Charles, another son, was at one time assistant superintendent of schools of Cook county, Ill. Mary Ann Gates, the mother of Mrs. King, was a daughter of John and Sarah (Merril) Gates, whose other children were: Richard, deceased; Thomas, Elmer and Elmira. Leonard and Mary Ann (Gates) Farr, the parents of Mrs. King, first lived in Franklin county, Ind., later in Butler county, Ohio, near Okeana, and finally in Union county, Ind., and were highly respected people. Leonard, the father, was a mechanic by occupation. He is deceased and buried at Liberty, Ind., while Mary Ann, the mother, resides in Liberty. They had two children: Frank, who married Lizzie Williams and resides at Milwaukee, Wis.; and Nora. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. King settled on a farm in Union county, Ind., where they made their home for five years, and then moved to the old King homestead in Oxford township, Butler county, Ohio. Here Mr. King has made many fine improvements and has developed an excellent and productive property and one which pays him well for the labor which he expends upon it. He is a practical farmer who believes in the use of time-tried methods, but does not let his conservatism extend to too great a point, for a strain of progressiveness makes him ready to always try out new ideas that seem to have something to commend them. He is a Democrat, but never has been a politician in the generally accepted meaning of the word, and has not sought public office, although he takes a keen and intelligent interest in township affairs and supports actively all movements which promise to be of benefit. During the period of the war he was a generous contributor to the various drives and activities through which the civilian public assisted in the winning of the war. Mr. and Mrs. King are the parents of two children: Ruth, who is a student at Miami university; and Dorothy, who is attending Oxford High school.

Louis A. King, is a well-known and highly respected citizen of Oxford township, Butler county, where he is the owner of a valuable property. He was born in this township, on the old King homestead, July 17, 1865, a son of William and Margaret (Johnson) King, and a review of the family will be found in the sketch of William King, elsewhere in this work. The public schools of Oxford furnished Mr. King with his education, and when he laid aside his studies he settled down to farming, a vocation which has claimed his undivided attention throughout his career. In 1888 he was united in marriage with Harriet, daughter of Walter and Susan Garrod, of Oxford, the father being a cabinet maker by trade. There were five children in the Garrod family: George L., Walter, Alfred, Grace, who is now Mrs. P. M. Reisch, of Denver, Colo.; and Harriet, who is Mrs. King. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. King settled on a part of the old King homestead in Oxford township, where they now have 100 acres under a high state of cultivation. Mr. King erected the buildings on this property and put in various other modern improvements, making of it an ideal and model country estate. He carries on general farming, making a specialty of the raising of thoroughbred hogs, and his good management and industry have com-

bined to bring him prosperity. Mr. King is independent in politics, is a good and public-spirited citizen supporting all movements for the benefit of his community, and during the period of the war was a liberal contributor to wartime activities and measures. Mr. and Mrs. King are the parents of three children: Ruby, who married Bennett Cross, of Oxford township; George, who married Fern Wehr; and Walter, who is home and his father's assistant.

William King. The Butler county farmer, if he is enterprising and energetic, is usually loath to transfer the control of his operations to other hands, even when he has reached an age that men in other lines of industry would consider advanced years; but when finally he does relinquish his hold upon active labor and retires to a residence in the town or city, he makes one of the substantial, solid citizens of his new community and as such is a welcome addition. One of the best and most favorably known retired residents of Oxford is William King, who for many years was engaged in farming in Oxford township. He was born two miles west of Oxford, on the old King homestead, now occupied by George King, January 17, 1842, a son of Michael and Angeline (Cutter) King, the former born at Williamsburg, Mass., and the latter at Wheatley, that state. The paternal grandparents were William and Rachael (Appleby) King, the great-grandparents William and Thankful (Horner) King, and the great-great-grandparents were William and Jemima (Bliss) King, one William was a Minute Man during the Revolution, with the rank of lieutenant, and another of whose sons, Solomon, also fought as a soldier of the Continental line. William King last named was a son of John and Sarah (Allen) King. The family in this country is traced to John King, who came from Edwarston, England, in 1679, settling at Palmer, Mass., whose son, Benjamin, was killed by Indians in Massachusetts in 1756. Byron Loomis, son of Lucretia (King) Loomis, of the fifth King generation, fought as a soldier during the Civil war. Michael King, the father of William King of this review, was married in Massachusetts, and in 1834 came with his bride to Ohio, settling on a farm about three miles west of Oxford. There he continued to carry on agricultural pursuits for many years, but in the evening of life moved to a small tract west of the town, where his death occurred in 1884, his widow surviving him ten years. They were the parents of the following children: Charles, who died at Richmond, Ind., in 1918, married Sarah Montford, and they had two children, Mrs. William Swan, wife of the former state representative from Preble county, Ohio, and Mrs. Charles Moss; William, of this review; Mary, deceased, who married William Finch and had three children, Mrs. M. Crick, William and Margaret; and Jerome, who died in 1915, married Olive Gibbs and had six children, Charles of Kansas, Nettie of California, Elmer, also of that state, Nellie, deceased, and Georgia and Jerome, of California. William King received his education in the public schools of Butler county, and was reared on his father's farm, being the elder man's associate until his marriage, in 1864, to Margaret, daughter of Louis and Margaret (Hopper) Johnson. Louis Johnson and his wife were the parents of four children: Helen, who died as Mrs. Bradfield;

Mary, who married Jonathan Stout; Margaret, who became Mrs. King; and Albert, deceased. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. King moved to a farm three miles west of Oxford, the old King homestead, on which they made their home until 1904, in which year they retired to their fine modern home at Oxford, which they had previously built. The farm is now being conducted by their son, George. Mrs. King died at the Oxford home in 1914, universally respected and beloved. During his long career Mr. King has won and held in full degree the confidence of those with whom he has come in contact. A man of sterling integrity and probity, his acts have been governed by a high sense of right and justice. As a citizen he has discharged faithfully and conscientiously every duty which has devolved upon him. In politics he is a Democrat. Mr. and Mrs. King were the parents of four children: Louis, of Oxford township, who married Harriet Garrod and has three children, Ruby, who married Bennett Cross; George, who married Fern Wehr, and they have two children, Castle and Don; and Walter; George, residing on the old homestead, who married Nora Farr and has two children, Ruth and Dorothy; Emily, who is single and resides with her father; and Frank, who is deceased. William, George and Lewis Sadler, sons of Cordelia (King) Sadler of the fifth generation, enlisted in the Civil war in 1862; William was killed. Edwin, son of Jerome King, fifth generation, was a soldier of the Civil war. Jerome King, son of Jerome King, sixth generation, served in the World war.

Samuel Kinsinger, living in the community of Collinsville, Ohio, was born on the old home place two miles north of Collinsville, on March 11, 1851. He is the son of Joseph Kinsinger, who was born in 1801, in Bavaria, Germany, and who came to America in 1824, and located in Butler county. Joseph Kinsinger was married in 1830, to Magdalena, daughter of Christian and Catherine (Hauter) Augspurger, the former of Alsace, France, and the latter of Bavaria, who were married in the latter country in 1805. Christian Augspurger and family came to America in 1817 and settled in Pennsylvania, and a year later returned to Europe and in 1819 they again came to America and settled in the woods two miles north of Collinsville, Ohio. There they cleared a farm and made a home but subsequently disposed of it and moved to another property located two miles south of Trenton, Ohio. There they passed away and were buried in the family burying ground at that place. They were the parents of twelve children: Joseph, Catherine, Magdalena, Barbara, Christian, Mary, Jacob, John, Jacobina, Anna, Samuel and Frederick. After his marriage, Joseph Kinsinger purchased the old Augspurger homestead north of Collinsville, where he continued to be engaged in farming until his death in 1857, at the age of fifty-six years. He was always a farmer, but also labored faithfully in the Mennonite church, in which he was one of the early preachers in the Miami valley. During the early days the services of the followers of this faith were held in the various homes of the members, but later when a sizable congregation had been formed, a meeting place was secured at Trenton, Ohio. Mr. Kinsinger was widely known as a man

of ability and honor, and took an active part in the public and private welfare of the community in which he lived. In politics he voted the Democratic ticket. He was the father of nine children: Barbara, who died in 1918, was the wife of the late David Sommers, they had ten children; Catherine, who died in 1850; Christian, who died in 1868, was married to Mary Schrock, also deceased, and had two children; Magdalena, who died in 1911, was the wife of the late Joseph M. Goldsmith, and had nine children; Joseph, who died in 1886, was married to the late Helena Kennel, and had five children; Fannie, still living, of Collinsville, Ohio; Mary, who died in 1918; Jacobina, who died in 1867; and Samuel of Collinsville, who, in 1885, married Emma B. Jotter, daughter of the late Peter and Mary (Bender) Jotter, who were early residents of Monroe, Ohio. He is the father of two children. He, with his family, is now living on a farm west of Collinsville and is still actively engaged in general farming.

Samuel Harman Kitchen. Among the live and hustling business men of Middletown, one who in recent years has caused his name to become well and favorably known in realty circles, is Samuel Harman Kitchen, sales manager for the firm of Nein Brothers. Formerly identified with matters of an electrical nature, he early became convinced of the great future existing in the real estate field, and in this he has made a convincing success. He is likewise one of his city's most public-spirited citizens, and his constructive work in a number of civic bodies has tended to advance his community's welfare in no small degree. Mr. Kitchen was born in Berkeley county, W. Va., February 3, 1883, a son of Henry C. and Mary E. (Nelson) Kitchen. His maternal grandfather was the Rev. Henry S. Nelson, who was a circuit-riding minister of the United Brethren church during the period of the war between the North and the South. Bethule M. Kitchen, his paternal grandfather, was for a number of years president of the Martinsburg National bank and a leader of the Republican party in his community in antebellum days, and when the conflict between the states came on was elected to congress at that time. His children were: John B., of New Jersey; W. E., of Dayton; and Fannie, the wife of Ed Grove, of West Virginia; Sallie and William, who died in youth. Samuel Harman Kitchen commenced his education in the public schools of West Virginia, and was still a child when his parents removed to Ohio, the family settling one mile west of Shiloh church, where they lived one year. Later they changed their residence to the city of Dayton, and where the mother continues to make her home. The public school course at Dayton completed the educational training of Samuel H. Kitchen, following which, in 1898, he secured a position with the Bell Telephone company, where he worked his way to wire chief of the city of Dayton. Later he was made plant chief, at Springfield, where he remained twenty months, returning to Dayton in December, 1912. Shortly thereafter he was sent to Middletown to become manager of the Middletown Telephone company, and held that post from January 15, 1913, until December 15, 1916, when he resigned to become associated with the real estate firm of Nein Brothers, for which he

has since acted in the capacity of sales manager. He is one of the best-informed men in his line in the city, and his energy and hustling qualities have served to materially advance his company's interests. Mr. Kitchen was married June 20, 1906, to Grace, daughter of Benjamin F. and Eliza (Morgan) Metherd, who both survive, and to this union there have been born three children: Grace Elizabeth, born in 1908; Virginia Louisa, born in 1910 and Benjamin Metherd, born in 1915. The family resides on Superior avenue, where Mr. Kitchen recently purchased a beautiful home. As before noted he is very public-spirited, possessing a large degree of civic pride. During the period of the great World war he took an active and helpful part in the work of the Red Cross society, and at present he is secretary of the board of directors of the local Y. M. C. A., and secretary-treasurer of the Middletown Real Estate Board. He is fraternally affiliated with Scout Council, Knights of Pythias; the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masons, and in the last named is past master of Jefferson Lodge. In his politics he is liberal, voting for the man rather than with the party. Like her husband, Mrs. Kitchen is very popular in Middletown, where both have numerous friends. She had two sisters and one brother: Mrs. Minnie I. Schulz, Verna Belle, and Benjamin Franklin, who is deceased.

Augustus Kloman. Representing the stable, industrious and capable element recruited from the farming class of Butler county, Augustus Kloman, during his incumbency of the position of cashier of the Sharonville bank, has built up a reputation for ability, integrity and practicality that has done much to establish him in the confidence of the public and in the esteem of his associates. His career has been one in which teaching and banking have each received the benefit of his ability and in both connections he may be said to have made his name known and honored. Mr. Kloman was born on a farm in Union township, Butler county, Ohio, November 8, 1865, a son of Adam and Elizabeth (Aufranc) Kloman, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. Adam Kloman was educated in his native land, where he learned the trade of baker, but as he saw no future before him in Germany, at the age of twenty-three years he emigrated to the United States, and for a time was employed at his trade at Cincinnati. He then came to Butler county and became a farmhand, and after he had saved a little capital rented a small property of his own. This he left when he was able to buy a farm of forty-one acres, in Union township, upon which he continued industriously to carry on operations until the time of his death in 1903, Mrs. Kloman having passed away in 1896. They were highly respected people, of the best agricultural class, honest, unassuming and God-fearing, and had many friends. Of their ten children, eight are still living. Augustus Kloman attended the public schools of Union township, and, expressing a desire for further education, was sent to the normal school at Lebanon, for three terms of ten weeks each. With this preparation, he taught school for two years, and this enabled him to take the classical course at Wesleyan university for a like period. Again resuming his teaching activities, he had

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schools at Tylerville for one year, at West Chester for four years, at Stockton four years and at Woodlawn three years. He thus became widely and favorably known as an educator, and formed lasting friendships with his pupils and their parents. In 1910, Mr. Kloman became one of the organizers of the Sharonville bank, of which he became the first cashier, a position which he has retained to the present time. This institution, capitalized at $25,000, has enjoyed a healthy growth, and much of the credit for its high standing in banking circles and public confidence is due to Mr. Kloman's straightforward and conservative methods and to the influence which his personal integrity and probity exert. Mr. Kloman was formerly a member and clerk of the school board of Union township. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, at West Chtester, and his political faith makes him a Democrat. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Kloman was married in 1898, to Bessie M., daughter of John M. and Louise Cary, and they are the parents of two sons: Russell and Everett. The pleasant family home is located at West Chester, where both Mr. and Mrs. Kloman have numerous friends.

Howard L. Knepshield. Many of the men who make up the army of employees in the service of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, have passed their entire careers in the service of this company and have risen to substantial positions through earnest and persistent effort. Among these, one who has fairly earned the success which has come to him is Howard L. Knepshield, whose assigned duties make him known as a roller. he was born at Leechburg, Armstrong county, Pa., June 11, 1889, a son of Jacob U. and Tillie H. (Hillard) Knepshield, and was one of a family of sixteen children, of whom ten are deceased, seven having died in infancy. Lewis died September 6, 1908, from injuries incurred in a bicycle accident; and Edna, Mrs. Lloyd Thompson, died December 9, 1918, of the influenza, leaving one son, William Alfred, aged eight years. Anna Belle married Clarence Geralds, of Miltonville, Ohio; Clair married Freda Ross, and lives at Newport, Ky.; Mary married Hugh Greer and resides at Middletown; Russell Hobson, now at home, enlisted July 29, 1917, and served twenty-one months abroad as a member of Company E, Sixteenth Engineers; and Florence is the wife of A. C. Braun, who was a member of Company G, Twenty-ninth Civil Engineers, and crossed the seas to France during the World war. Mr. Knepshield's parents, natives of Pennsylvania, were married at Kittaning, that state, May 31, 1882, and came with their family to Middletown, July 3, 1900, Mr. Knepshield securing a position as heater with the American Rolling mill, by which concern he is still employed. For a man of his years he is exceptionally youthful and vigorous, showing plainly the beneficial results of a cleanly lived life. Mrs. Knepshield died February 10, 1917, leaving behind her many not only to mourn her many lovable qualities of mind and heart, but the memory of her splendid and inspiring gift for music. This latter talent has been inherited by her daughter, Mrs. Florence Braun, who is the possessor of a lovely voice of wide

range. Howard Lee Knepshield had just passed his eleventh birthday when he came to Middletown, and in the public schools of this city his education was completed. When he reached years of discretion he chose as his lifework the vocation of iron worker, and his training in this occupation was secured through experience as a worker in the American Rolling Mill, where for several years he has occupied the position of roller. He is a capable, willing and expeditious workman, upon whom both his employers and his associates can rely. September 28, 1909, Mr. Knepshield was united in marriage with Pearl Vance McChesney, daughter of David and Mary E. (Weikel) McChesney, the latter of whom still survives. Mrs. Knepshield's father died in 1897, having always been troubled with the after-effects of his experiences as a soldier during the Civil war. In that struggle between the North and South, Uriah Knepshield, an uncle of Howard, also took part. Mrs. Knepshield had the following brothers and sisters: Zella and Charles, who are deceased; George, of Middletown; Leah, who is the wife of George Wise; Mamie, who is the wife of Jack Brookover, of this city; and John, also of Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Knepshield are the parents of five attractive, healthy and interesting children: Howard Jacob, who was born in 1911; Mary Elizabeth, born in 1912; Ruth Louise, born in 1914; Harold David, born in 1915; and Charles McChesney, born in 1917. In his political allegiance Mr. Knepshield stands for principle rather than party, and in his citizenship is progressive. He fraternizes with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, in all of which he is popular. He and his family are members of the Methodist church, and reside in their own attractive home located on Linden avenue.

Samuel D. Kochendarfer, a well known and thrifty farmer, who successfully pursues his vocation in Reily township, belongs to that class of Butler county agriculturists who invest their work with enthusiasm, energy and modern enterprise. He has had to work industriously for what he has accumulated and as his present holdings are all of his own securing he can be included among the self-made men of his community. Mr. Kochendarfer was born at Morning Sun, Butler county, Ohio, August 28, 1868, a son of Peter and Anna (Slonaker) Kochendarfer, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Butler county. Peter Kochendarfer enlisted for service in the war between the States as a private in a Pennsylvania volunteer infantry regiment, and immediately following his honorable discharge came to Butler county, Ohio, and located in Milford township, where he worked at farming until his marriage. For five years he resided in Pennsylvania, but then returned to Butler county, and for many years was an agriculturist of Milford township, where he accumulated a good property and became one of his locality's substantial and highly respected citizens. When he retired he moved to his present home at Oxford. He and his wife are the parents of seven children: Mary Ann, the wife of Henry Geckler, of Hamilton; Nathan, who is a resident of Texas; Samuel D., of this notice; Harvey, a resident of Hamilton; Eliza, the wife of Glen

RESIDENCE OF H. L. KNEPSHIELD, MIDDLETOWN

Wright, of Oxford; Amanda, the wife of John Wright, of that place; and Lydia, the wife of Frank Truax, of Norwood, Ohio. Samuel D. Kochendarfer was educated in the public schools in his home community, and when he entered upon his own career farmed at Jericho for one year, near Somerville for three years, at Darrtown one year, and then for a number of years at different places in Reily township. In 1908 he purchased the old Conklin farm in Reily township, where he now lives, a tract of 165 acres on which he has made numerous improvements. He has always carried on general farming and has worked hard for his success, combining industry with good management into a happy whole which has advanced him to a place of independence among the men of his community. He is well and favorably known in the county, where he has many warm friends. As a voter, Mr. Kochendarfer is a Democrat, but is not interested in politics, save as a supporter of good movements tending toward general progress. Mrs. Kochendarfer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1888 Mr. Kochendarfer married Miss Olive Dawson, and they are the parents of three children: Stanley, who fought as a soldier in the American Expeditionary Force during the great World war; he enlisted December 12, 1917, at Hamilton, Ohio, most of his training was obtained at Camp Greene, N. C. He set sail for France, July 15, 1918. During that time he is credited with a Victory Ribbon and two bronze stars. After the Armistice was signed he started for Germany and arrived in Coblenz, Germany, December 8, 1918, where his company was made a Service Park Unit, 696, Third Army Headquarters; after staying seven and a half months there, started back for Brest, France, and set sail for Camp Merritt, arriving there August 12, 1919, and received his honorable discharge at Camp Sherman, August 27, 1919; after his discharge returned to the home of his parents and spent a joyful vacation, and later married the daughter of a prominent farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Imhoff of near Oxford, Ohio. The marriage took place December 25, 1919, and in the future he will give his time and attention to agriculture, operating a farm near Reily, Ohio; Harvey, a farmer near Millville, Ohio, who married Ethel Grison, October 18, 1911; and Nellie, the widow of Paul Sauer.

Harry J. Koehler, Jr. A native of stirring, progressive Hamilton, at the time of his first election to the post of city solicitor in 1915, Harry J. Koehler, jr., was one of the youngest men ever selected for that position. However, youth was no bar to his success in that capacity for his administration was an excellent one and his services received the ratification of the people in 1917, when he was again sent to that office to succeed himself, and being again elected to like office November 4, 1919. Mr. Koehler, who is making rapid advancement at the Butler county bar, was born at Hamilton, March 6, 1890, a son of Harry J. Koehler, sr. He received his preliminary educational training in the public schools, and after graduating from high school in 1907 attended the law department of the university of Cincinnati, where he received the degree of L. L. B. June 4, 1910, when he was but twenty years of age. Here his youth rose up as a bar to his admittance to practice, but June 11, 1911, he

was given this admission, and since that time has built up an excellent clientele. His public service, as noted, has been of a valuable and valued character, and he is already accounted one of his community's useful citizens. He is a Democrat in politics, and is fraternally affiliated with the Elks, the Eagles and the Knights of Pythias.

Fred Koffer. The claim of Fred Koffer upon the good-will and consideration of his fellow-townsmen at Collinsville rests upon many years of effective work as an agriculturist, upon a meritorious record as a citizen, and upon his activity in promoting education and kindred accompaniments of advanced civilization. Mr. Koffer retired from active life in 1903, at the age of fifty-eight years, a fact which speaks well for his industry and business sagacity. He was born in Baden, Germany, March 12, 1846, a son of George and Barbara (Fuchs) Koffer, his father being a laboring man who was employed much of his time in working on the River Rhine. In 1855 the family came to the United States and after landing at New Orleans, La., remained there for a short time. Subsequently they came to Hamilton county, Ohio, where they lived for about two years, and in 1858 came to Butler county, where the parents spent the balance of their lives, the father passing away at the age of eighty-six years and the mother when she was seventy-one years old. They were the parents of the following sons: William and Charles, of Preble county; George, of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Chris, who died January 7, 1919; and Fred. Fred Koffer completed his education in the public schools of Butler county and was reared to the pursuits of agriculture, in which he continued to be engaged until 1902. He was a hard and well-informed business man, and was identified with many phases of country life. His judgment was of value because tempered by experience and held in leash by a natural tendency toward conservatism, and he was successful in the accumulation of valuable property, his last farm, a tract of fifty acres near Millville, being sold at the time he moved to Collinsville, in 1902. Here he has a comfortable home. To know him is to receive the inspiration of an upright and honest man, and the encouragement of one who has surmounted many obstacles. Mr. Koffer was married January 11, 1872, to Miss Margaret Probst, a native of Germany, and a daughter of John and Rosina Probst, who lived in Butler county for many years and are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Koffer have no children. Mr. Koffer was a Republican at the time he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, but since then has voted the Democratic ticket. He and his worthy wife are consistent members of the Zion Lutheran church at Hamilton.

Martin Kohler, Jr., lifelong resident of Middletown, Ohio, son of Martin and Barbara (Masner) Kohler, was born July 26, 1872. His parents located on a farm, which land the Big Four railroad now occupies and where they reared the large family born to them, all but two of whom are living: Jacob, Fred, deceased; Mary, Mrs. Peter Prentenborbec; Martin; Barbara, Mrs. George Miller; John, deceased; Agnes, Mrs. John Dugan; Kate, Mrs. Fred Palmer. The mother died March 4, 1912; the father still lives in Middletown.

Young Martin was married November 29, 1894, to Stella Dye, daughter of William and Sarah (Thomas) Dye, who came from Campbell county, Ky., to Middletown which remains their home. Mrs. Kohler had six brothers and sisters: William Walter, Edgar Lewis, James Luther, Sara Pearl, Mrs. Chester Jones; Charles, Bertha May, Mrs. Edward Haller. Mr. and Mrs. Kohler have two children: Earl Raymond, born July 30, 1896, married to Susie Lee Hill, October 27, 1918; Marie, born April 7, 1898, married to Thomas Dickey Linkin, November 7, 1917. Mr. Kohler holds a responsible position with the American Rolling Mill company as foreman of the open hearth department, is a valued employee and popular with the men under his supervision. While of a retiring nature, he abounds in energy and activity and takes much interest in public affairs. He owns one of the most handsome homes on Yankee road in which he delights and takes much pride. His recreation hours are devoted largely to the care of the grass lawns which are considered as among the most beautiful and attractive in the city. Politically Mr. Kohler is a Republican. He is a member of the Lutheran church and also of the Knights of Pythias.

Edward Kramer, superintendent of transportation of the American Rolling Mill plant. His popularity in his native city of Middletown, Butler county, was significantly demonstrated in the splendid record he made in his recent campaign for the office of city commissioner. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, as well as the local organization of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and both he and his wife are communicants of Holy Trinity Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Kramer are popular factors in the social activities of the "younger set" in Middletown, and their pleasant home is at 507 E. First street. Edward Kramer was born at Middletown January 22, 1881, a son of Joseph and Bridget (O'Connell) Kramer, who still reside in this city, their home being on East First street. Joseph Kramer came to Middletown from the city of Cincinnati, in 1870, and ten years he was in the employ of the Hill Paper company. He then assumed the position of foreman for the Sorg Tobacco company, with which concern he was connected until his retirement from active business, about the year 1914. His father represented the old Buckeye state as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war, as a member of Company D, 2d Ohio Heavy Artillery, with which he served two years and nine months. Of the ten children of Joseph and Bridget Kramer the eldest is Henry, who is now a resident of Franklin, Ohio; William, and Charles remain at Middletown; Sabina, Mayme and Stella are deceased, as is also Frank; and Edward, Nicholas and Charles reside at Middletown. On November 18, 1903, Edward Kramer was married to Mary Britt, daughter of John and Mary (Higgins) Britt, of Newport, Ky., and the two children of this union are Mary and Stella, both of whom are attending the parochial school of Holy Trinity church.

Harry L. Kramer. The early years of the nineteenth century were characterized by the immigration of that pioneer element who

made the great Miami valley what it is. These immigrants were sturdy, heroic, upright, sincere people, such as constitute the strength of a commonwealth. It scarcely seems probable that in the future history of the world another such period can occur, or indeed any period when such a solid phalanx of strong-minded men and heroic, self-sacrificing women will take possession of a new country. Descended from these God-fearing people have come strong, self-reliant and worthy descendants, who have continued the work started by their forebears and who now constitute the life of the fertile regions of the Miami valley; and among these worthy representatives of sturdy pioneer families is found Harry L. Kramer, a substantial agriculturist and property owner of Milford township, Butler county. Mr. Kramer was born on the old Kramer homestead, upon which he now resides, February 18, 1868, a son of Andrew Kramer, a native of Maryland who came to Butler county with his parents when one and one-half years old, in the early spring of 1822. He was born in Maryland, June 10, 1820, a son of George and Barbara Kramer. George Kramer first came to Butler county, Ohio, in 1821, and bought 320 acres of land, all in heavy timber, in which he cleared a small space and erected a primitive log cabin. He then returned to Maryland, near the Pennsylvania line, where he got his wife and children, the little party traveling in a flatboat down the river to Cincinnati and then making their way overland to their new wilderness home. While he had been a glass blower in the east, George Kramer adapted himself to his new surroundings and eventually made a success of his operations as a farmer, and at the time of his death was a well-to-do man for his day. He and his worthy wife were faithful members of the Lutheran church and the parents of eight children: Frederick Thomas, Margaret, Christina, Lewis, Elizabeth, Balser, George and Andrew. Andrew Kramer grew up amid pioneer surroundings and acquired such educational training as was given in the primitive schoolhouse of his day. He was reared to the hard and unending duties of the home place, and worked with his father until his marriage, October 17, 1844, to Eleanor Scott, who was born in Milford township, Butler county, a daughter of Richard and Rebecca Scott, natives of Virginia and early settlers of section 19, Milford township, where Mr. Scott followed farming. Mr. and Mrs. Scott were the parents of five children: William, John, Richard, Rebecca and Eleanor. After their marriage, Andrew and Eleanor Kramer lived on the farm now occupied by their son, Harry L., on which the father erected a two-story log cabin and cleared a large amount of land. His first acquirement was 160 acres, but to this he added from time to time until he was a large property owner, and at his death, in 1913, at the age of ninety-three years, was accounted one of his community's substantial citizens. He was a Republican in politics, and he and Mrs. Kramer, who died September 23, 1889, were faithful members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of seven children: George, born June 30, 1846, a farmer west of Oxford, and a soldier during the Civil war, married Elizabeth Hansel; William, born March 3, 1850, a farmer of Milford township, married Catherine Nichol, who, since

his death in 1900, has resided at Hamilton; Mary Alice, born October 18, 1853, the wife of R. T. Nichol, of Oxford, Ohio; Lewis Scott, who died in infancy; John Scott, who also died in infancy; Harry L., of this notice; and LeRoy, born August 16, 1870, a farmer of Oxford township, married Minnie Jackson. Harry L. Kramer attended the country schools, the Lebanon university as well as the Miami university of Oxford, doing surveying and map work in Logan and Clermont counties and resided at home with his parents until his marriage in June, 1890, to Elizabeth Shields of Darrtown, a daughter of Edward B. and Maria (Walden) Shields. Edward B. Shields was born in Ireland and was a young man when he came to the United States. During the Civil war he was first sergeant of Company K, 22d Regiment, New York Volunteer Cavalry, and was honorably discharged from the service in Virginia, August 1, 1865, following which he came to Darrtown and first established himself in business as a merchant, subsequently turning his attention to farming. His wife first married James Elliott, of Kentucky, and was a daughter of James Walden, an early settler and farmer near Darrtown. She was one of a family of eight children, as follows: Sarah, Julia, Hannah, Eliza, Maria, Jane, Nancy and David. Mrs. Kramer was the only child born to her parents who, after their marriage, settled down at Darrtown, where Mr. Shields died in 1880. He was active in politics as a Democrat and served as a justice of the peace for many years, and in religious faith was a Catholic, while his wife was a member of the Methodist church. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Kramer located on the place which they have since made their home, and which for ten years was farmed by Mr. Kramer and his brother Le Roy. At the present time Mr. Kramer has 160 acres of productive and well-cultivated land, and in addition to carrying on farming in association with his son, is a large raiser of Shorthorn cattle, Duroc Jersey hogs and draft horses. He is accounted one of the skilled and thoroughly informed farmers of his locality, and is one who uses modern methods in his work. He has always been a great and loyal friend of the public schools and for eight years was a member of the board of education, and has to some extent been interested in Republican politics. His religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he and the members of his family attend at Darrtown. Mr. and Mrs. Kramer are the parents of three children: Erma May, born May 22, 1891, a graduate of Miami university, class of 1911, and now the wife of Howard D. Fairley, of Hillsboro, Ohio, with one child, Richard K.; Fred Andrew, born July 15, 1892, who attended Oxford college for two years, and is now his father's associate in cultivating the home farm; and Ruth Elizabeth, born December 20, 1909, who is attending the public schools.

Le Roy Kramer. A number of the leading men of Butler county are to be found on well-regulated farms, the appearance and productiveness of which demonstrate the ability, business acumen and progressive spirit of the owners. Among these constructive citizens of real worth is found Le Roy Kramer, of Oxford, the owner of a well-cultivated and valuable farm. Mr. Kramer was born in Milford

township, Butler county, Ohio, August 16, 1870, a son of Andrew and Ellen (Scott) Kramer, the former a member of a family which settled in Milford township at an early date, and the latter a native of Butler county. The Kramers and Scotts were real pioneers of this part of the Miami valley, and a brother of Mrs. Kramer, Richard Scott, served as a soldier during the Civil war, in which he was captured by the Confederates and confined in Andersonville prison, where he died. After their marriage, Andrew and Ellen Kramer resided for a number of years in the vicinity of Darrtown, where they died, and where they were laid to rest in the cemetery of that place. They were the parents of the following children: George, Harry, Le Roy, Will, and Alice, who married Robert Nichol. George and Harry attended Miami university, and the former enlisted at eighteen years of age in the Civil war. Le Roy Kramer, after attending the country schools, went to Wittenberg college, Springfield, Ohio, where he spent two years, then began work on his father's farm. He was married in 1893 to Minnie, daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Gruver) Jackson, and a granddaughter of John and Nancy (Hough) Jackson, who removed from their native Virginia to Pennsylvania and later to Cincinnati, Ohio, where they came at an early day to Butler county, Ohio. Samuel Jackson, the son, had come to Cincinnati from Morgantown, W. Va., near which place his father had operated a gristmill and smelter, and upon his arrival built a paper mill for J. Graham & Brother at the foot of Western Row, secretly forging parts to preserve the secret of its construction. This was the first paper machine west of the Alleghanies, and the mill was later removed to Hamilton, under Mr. Jackson's supervision. Later he purchased a farm near Darrtown, and lived thereon from 1864 for a number of years. He first married Clarissa Lewis, who died leaving five children, among whom were James and John, who served in the Civil war, in which the former met his death on a southern battlefield. Mr. Jackson's second union was with Mrs. Catherine (Gruver) Stout, who had a son by her first marriage to John Stout, William H. Stout, who served in the Civil war. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jackson: Joseph, Amos, and Minnie, who became Mrs. Kramer. Samuel and Catherine (Gruver) Jackson later removed to a farm near Brookville, Ind., where both passed away. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Kramer settled near Brookville, on her old home place, but in 1912 came to their present property in Oxford township, where, in 1919, they erected a handsome country home. This is now a valuable and attractive estate, with furnace heat, water works and Delco lighting system, and the entire farm shows the presence of good taste and excellent business management. Mr. Kramer is an excellent example of the live, up-to-date progressive farmer of the twentieth century, who knows how to make his land pay him a good profit, and how to enjoy his life in the midst of the surroundings that have always been his. He and the members of his family belong to the Methodist church. He is a public-spirited citizen, and during the war was a generous contributor to all movements promulgated. He and Mrs. Kramer are the parents of two children: Paul J., who was born in 1904; and Kathryn Eleanor, who was born in 1905.

Charles Krebs. During a long period of years the late Charles Krebs was identified with agricultural pursuits in Butler county, where he established a reputation for unsullied citizenship and industrious application to the best tenets of his vocation. He was born at Escher, Erhausen, Germany, June 26, 1837, and was but sixteen years of age when he first came to the United States, where he remained only one year. He then returned to his native land for a like period, but, having become imbued with the spirit of America again came to this country, this time to settle permanently. Locating at Hamilton, as a young man he worked at farming near Flenners Corners, and while there met and married his first wife, Mary Rabbett, of Butler county. After her death he married Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Catherine (Fellsman) Kehm, natives of France, the former of whom emigrated to the United States alone at the age of twenty years, and the latter of whom came with her parents as a child of four years. They settled first at Monroe, Ohio, after their marriage, and Mr. Kehm also followed his trade of wagon maker at Hamilton, which was the family home for twelve years. Eventually he moved to LeSourdsville, where both he and his wife passed away. They were the parents of six children, namely: Phoebe, who is deceased; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Krebs; August, who is deceased; Caroline, a resident of Shelby county, Ohio; Maggie, living at Chicago, Ill.; and John, who lives at Minneapolis, Minn. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Krebs located on a farm in Lemon township, Butler county, where they lived for two years, subsequently going to southeastern Kansas, where they tried their fortunes for three years. Not being satisfied with that part of the country, they returned to Ohio, and for three years resided at Symmes Corners, subsequently going to Darrtown, which was their home for six years. Finally they took up their residence on a farm of 160 acres, the Adam Flenner place in Milford township, on which they made many valuable improvements and carried on extensive agricultural operations until they went to the Jones farm near Oxford. They then moved to Oxford, where they resided for three years, and where Mr. Kreb's death occurred September 30, 1914, he being buried at Darrtown. Mr. Krebs was always a farmer and a good one, and was a man widely and favorably known for his integrity and probity. He was a well-educated man and one well posted on a number of important topics, and the high esteem in which he was held by his fellow-citizens led them to elect him to a number of offices of trust in his township, in all of which he discharged his duties conscientiously and ably and with all due fidelity. His political views made him a Democrat and he was a faithful member of the Lutheran church, to which belongs his wife, one of the well known and highly esteemed women of Milford township. They were the parents of the following children: Dora, who married Elmer Coulter, of Oxford; Katie, who married Daniel Hetzel, of Pershing, Ind.; Lewis, who died in September, 1915, in Kansas; Edgar, who is engaged in farming at Morning Sun, Ohio; Charles, a farmer and stockman of Milford township; and Nellie, who in August, 1909, married J. R. Harris, a farmer and stockman of Milford

township, and has three children, James, Robert and Dwight.

George J. Krebs. Since entering the service of the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown, at the time that concern began operations at its big plant, George J. Krebs has lent dignity and stability to a useful trade, and thus has maintained a reputation for ability and integrity in the pursuance of his vocational duties. Mr. Krebs was born June 18, 1879, at Newport, Ky., a son of John and Philomina (Stemler) Krebs, who still make their home at Newport. There were ten children in their family: George J.; Alfred; John; Stephen; Sylvester; Minnie, the wife of A. Schumacher, of Newport; Barbara, the wife of Lewis Otto, of Newport; Madeline and Lillian, who live with their parents at Newport; and Rose, who is deceased. George J. Krebs received a public school education and as a young man applied himself to learning his trade. He came to Middletown, about 1901, when the plant of the American Rolling Mill company was opened here. He now occupies the position of heater, and is highly regarded by his company as a man of steady habits, a skilled workman, and one who applies himself industriously to his tasks. He and his wife are popular with their fellow-townspeople, both possessing attractive personalities, and have a splendid home on Forest avenue. They are devout members of the Holy Trinity Catholic church, and Mr. Krebs holds membership in the local council of the Knights of Columbus. He takes an active interest in the welfare of his adopted city and supports movements which make for progress. October 6, 1901, Mr. Krebs was married in The Immaculate Conception at Newport, Ky., to Nellie, daughter of Robert and Lizzie (Galvin) Madget. Her father was born in the city of Liverpool, England, and was a youth when he emigrated to Canada, afterwards going to Cincinnati, where he was married, and where his death occurred October 30, 1916. Mrs. Madget died when Mrs. Krebs was still a child. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Krebs there have come two children: Mildred, born August 1, 1902; and Robert, born May 22, 1904, students at the Middletown high school.

George J. Krebs, now deceased, was connected with some of the leading business enterprises of Hamilton, and in other ways demonstrated his ability and sound common sense, so that when death claimed him, his community felt it had sustained a heavy loss. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, February 20, 1862, a son of Casper and Johanna Krebs, natives of Germany, who came to the United States at an early day, and after their arrival here, located at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was foreman in a large wholesale house. Later, removal was made to Newport, Ky., where both parents died. They had the following children: Bertha, who lives at Fairview, Ohio; Peter, who is deceased; Minnie, who is deceased; George J., whose name heads this review; and Casper, who lives at Metropolis, Ill. George J. Krebs attended the common schools of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Newport, Ky., and then, returning to Cincinnati, he learned the tailoring trade, following it in that city until 1894, when he came to Hamilton, Ohio, and he and his brother, Casper, established themselves in a mens furnishing and clothing business on High street near Second, subsequently moving to Third and High streets. After

GEORGE J. KREBS AND FAMILY

attaining to considerable success in his original line of business, Mr. Krebs became a dealer in furniture at Nos. 15-17-19 S. Third street, under the firm name of Haberbash & Krebs, later buying out the interest of his partner, and continuing the concern alone until his death in September, 1915, at which time his store was one of the finest and most modern in Hamilton. March 22, 1883, Mr. Krebs was united in marriage with Rosalie Widrig, born at Newport, Ky., a daughter of Tobias and Margaret (Feth) Widrig, natives of Switzerland and Germany, respectively. Mr. Widrig was extensively engaged in a flour and feed business at Newport, Ky., where he died in 1900, aged seventy-two years, his wife having died in 1878, aged fifty-four years. Both were devout members of St. Stephen's Roman Catholic church of Newport, Ky. They had the following children: Angelina, who lives at Newport, Ky.; Rosalie, who is Mrs. Krebs; Tobias, who is a druggist of Newport, Ky.; Mary, who lives at Metropolis, Ill.; Louis, who is a druggist of Newport, Ky.; Joseph, deceased; Emma, who is Sister Lourdes, is located at Chatham, Canada; Edwin, who is a druggist of Newport, Ky.; and two who died when children. Mr. and Mrs. Krebs became the parents of the following children: Marie, who married Marr Hamilton, died January 14, 1915, leaving one son, George Edward; Adolph, who married Ada Griner, has two children, Carolyn Rose and Jane Marie, and is a member of the firm of Geo. J. Krebs Sons; Louis, who is also a member of the firm; Arnold, who served his country during the World war, was connected with the motor service of the 83d Division in France; Joseph, was also in the service during the Great War, and was at the base hospital at Camp Sherman; and Margaret, who is at home. The four sons took over their father's business at his death, but the two younger left the care of it to the others, and went into the service when the United States declared war. All of the children have been carefully educated, the two older ones at St. Xavier's at Cincinnati, Ohio; Arnold at Notre Dame; Joseph at the Catholic high school at Hamilton, Ohio, and Margaret at the Sacred Heart school at Clifton, Ohio. All of the family belong to St. Stephen's Roman Catholic church at Hamilton, Ohio. Mr. Krebs was an enthusiastic member of the Knights of Columbus and the Eagles. He was a staunch Democrat; but aside from giving his hearty support to the candidates of his party, he did not participate in public affairs. Beginning his business career in a small way, he gradually expanded his operations as his patronage warranted, and built up a concern that rests upon the sound foundation of upright dealing and honest principles and his sons are reaping the fruits of their father's foresight and probity. They have already proved their ability to continue in their father's footsteps, and their establishment is handling a large and valuable trade, drawn not only from Hamilton, but the surrounding territory. Mr. Krebs was a man who found in his family circle the happiest moments of his life. It was his constant aim to give to his children those advantages which would enable them to take their place in any society or condition into which they might be thrown, and they have fully lived up to his expectations. Mrs. Krebs has always commanded the affection and

respect of her friends and neighbors, and in her church and neighborhood, she is highly regarded, and her children tenderly cherish her.

August Kriegenhofer. Upon manufacture and commerce rests in large degree the prosperity of nations as well as communities. Supplying the needs of purchasers, meeting the demands of producers, and so regulating trade that injustice be done nowhere, make up so large a portion of the world's activities and engage the ablest efforts of so many people that the manufacturer stands in the position of being one of the nation's chief assets. The thriving community of Hamilton includes a number of prominent manufacturing concerns, and among these is found the Columbia Tool company, of which August Kriegenhofer has been superintendent since 1918. Mr. Kriegenhofer was born at Hamilton, Ohio, a son of John P. and Eva M. (Fleurer) Kriegenhofer, natives of Germany who came to the United States in 1856 and settled at Harrisburg, Pa., then coming to this city. In his native land John P. Kriegenhofer had learned the trade of carpenter, and at Hamilton applied himself to contracting and building, in which capacity he contributed materially to the upbuilding of his adopted community. In 1862 he joined the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal. He was one of the popular men of his community and a valued comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic. His death occurred in 1889 and Mrs. Kriegenhofer passed away in 1893. They were the parents of the following children, three of whom are living: Michael, Margaret and August; those being deceased are: John P., John, Andrew, Frederick, Mary, and Elizabeth. August Kriegenhofer was educated in the Hamilton public schools, and after he laid aside his school books started to learn the trade of machinist as a helper in the Cope & Maxwell company's shops. He remained with that concern for eleven years, then transferring his services to Gordon & Maxwell, from whom he went to the Gorden Steam Pump company, where he had charge of the boring mills. Later he was with the Niles Tool company, and then entered the employ of the Hamilton Machine & Tool company, with which he remained for fourteen years. He resigned the position of assistant superintendent to become an official and stockholder of the Kern Machine & Tool company, which was sold in 1915 to the Simplex company, of Cleveland, and Mr. Kriegenhofer remained as superintendent of the company for one and one-half years. In 1918 he left that concern and identified himself with the Columbia Machine Tool company, of which he has been superintendent of the plant ever since. During the period of the United States' participation in the great World war, Mr. Kriegenhofer had charge of the parts made by the Columbia Tool company under subcontracts for the Hooven-Owen-Rentschler company, these parts being used in the construction of marine engines. He likewise superintended the building of shapers for other companies, this being likewise under war contracts, and his contribution to the winning of the war did not end there, as he took an active and leading part in selling Liberty

bonds. In 1891 Mr. Kriegenhofer married Miranda J., daughter of Campbell and Margaret Cornelius, and to this union there have been born four children: Eva M., who is a nurse at Christ hospital; Helen, who is attending Hamilton High school; Hazel M., who is at home; and Stanley A., at home. Mr. Kriegenhofer is a member of St. John's Evangelical church, Mrs. Kriegenhofer belongs to the Church of Christ and the children are Methodists. Fraternally, Mr. Kriegenhofer is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a Republican, although not bound down by party lines, being somewhat independent in his views. He has been one of the active and public-spirited men of his city when civic movements have been at stake, and has been particularly active and helpful in matters pertaining to public education, having served as treasurer of the school board of Lindenwald and being one of the foremost factors in raising funds and instigating the building of the Lindenwald school.

Karl E. Krieger, the manager of the savings department of the First National bank, is a native son of Hamilton, his parents being Edward and Louise (Getz) Krieger, both deceased, the former for many years a highly respected citizen and prominent real estate and insurance operator. There were six children in the family: Carrie, the wife of Alfred J. Holbrook; Karl E.; Ida, the wife of Henry Kieser; Otto, in the Ordnance Department of the United States Army; Paul, an agent for the Fox Film corporation; and Alma. The family belongs to the Catholic church. Karl E. Krieger was educated in the public schools of Hamilton and at St. Joseph's parochial school, and as a youth began his career as a clerk in the freight department of the C. H. & D. railway office. Subsequently, he was sent to Toledo by that company and then to Cincinnati, where he continued in clerical work for some time. Returning to Hamilton, he was elected alderman of the second ward, and in 1910 became manager of the savings department of the Miami Valley National bank, which was later merged into the First National bank, with which institution Mr. Krieger has continued in the same capacity. During the period of the United States' participation in the great war, Mr. Krieger handled between $700,000 and $800,000 subscriptions in war bonds, stamps, etc., for the bank's customers. In addition to his duties at the bank, he is also capably discharging official responsibilities, as he occupies the position of city clerk of Hamilton, an office which he has held since his election thereto in January, 1916. Fraternally, he is a popular member of the local lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Catholic Order of Foresters, and he and his family belong to St. Mary's Catholic church. In 1903 Mr. Krieger was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of Joseph and Philomena (Pater) Schumacher, of Hamilton, and to this union there has been born one son, J. Edward, who is attending the parochial schools.

Charles Krone. Among the pharmacists of the Miami valley, and one who has proven himself worthy of the trust reposed in him and who is capable of efficiently handling the demands made upon

him, is Charles Krone, of Hamilton. Mr. Krone was born at Lewistown, the county seat of Mifflin county, Pa., May 16, 1863, a son of Henry and Mary (Guyler) Krone, the former of whom was a prominent physician of Hamilton until his death in 1873, while the latter survived until 1914. The only one living of his parents' four children, Charles Krone was an infant when brought to Hamilton, where his early education was secured in the public schools. Subsequently he pursued a course in the Hamilton Commercial college, and then took up the study of his chosen vocation in the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy. Upon his return to Hamilton, he became associated with John C. Shwartz, a druggist of this city, with whom he remained for eight years, following which he went to Hot Springs, Ark., and remained one year. Again returning to Hamilton, he embarked in the drug business in partnership with his brother, on South Third street, this establishment being known as Krone Brothers for twenty years, during which it became a favorite with the buying public and was the means of establishing the proprietors firmly in the confidence of the people. At the end of that period, they sold their property and Mr. Krone's brother entered business at Second and Walnut streets, while Mr. Krone went to Cincinnati and became identified with the Owl Drug company, as manager of the store of that concern at Fifth and Walnut streets. At the time of his brother's death, Mr. Krone returned to Hamilton and purchased from the estate the store at Second and Walnut streets, which he has since conducted with much success. He has an establishment which is first class and up-to-date in every respect, and its proprietor has not only built up a prosperous business but has also gained a recognized position as a reliable and substantial man of affairs. Mr. Krone was married to Katie E. Hass of Hamilton, who died in 1915, without issue. The present Mrs. Krone was formerly Rose M. Iske, also of Hamilton. Fraternally Mr. Krone is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His public service has been long, valuable and conscientious. He was appointed coroner of Butler county by the county commissioners to complete the unexpired term of Dr. John R. Brown, deceased. For ten years he was a member of the Ohio Board of Pharmacy, being appointed by Gov. James E. Campbell for five years and reappointed for a like term by Gov. Asa Bushnell, and was also president of the first board of public service, a position which he held two years. For six years he was a member of the board of health, having been first appointed by Mayor Thad. Straub and subsequently by Mayor John Holzberger. His public service, like his business life, has been characterized by fidelity, duty and honorable principles, and has added to his reputation as a valuable and useful citizen.

Henry Kugler. One of the most attractive of the many beautiful farms in Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, is the 115-acre tract owned and operated by Henry Kugler, and today it is not only one of the best kept of the many desirable farms of Butler county, but it is also one of the most productive for its size, the crop yield each year being even beyond expectations. His progressiveness and en-

thusiasm for farming are undoubtedly inherited from his father, who was one of the alert agriculturists of Butler county in his time and was recognized as a man who had a deep knowledge of affairs pertaining to farming. Born south of Symmes corner, Butler county, March 12, 1866, Henry Kugler was one of five children of John and Margaret Kugler, both natives of Germany, who came to Ohio in 1866, locating south of Symmes corner. Four of the children are living: Elizabeth, Catharine, Mary and Henry. Being of limited means, but of vigorous physique and enthusiastic over the future of Butler county as an agricultural section the father obtained employment as a farmhand and later became a renter, renting and operating land in several townships in Butler county and his efforts were attended with the most encouraging success. His knowledge and application of the scientific principles of farming were such that he was in position to make the most of his land. Evidences of his activity may be had in a number of instances in Liberty township in which the farm land which he once rented has been brought to the highest point of development. Henry Kugler received his schooling in Butler county and associated himself with his father in farming after leaving school, and thus continued until the retirement of his father, when he rented for eight years then moved to Liberty township where he purchased the farm which he is now occupying and operating. The improvement that these 115 acres have undergone since he acquired ownership has been really amazing. In addition to his scientific cultivation of the land the most modern equipment is used in tilling the soil and the buildings that stand on the property have every modern convenience. In 1903 he married Elizabeth Kerr, daughter of Dieterich Kerr, and they have two children: Frederick and Henrietta. Mr. Kugler is an independent Democrat.

Alfred C. Kuhr, one of the enterprising and progressive young business men of Hamilton, who is proprietor of a thriving grocery establishment on East avenue, has passed his entire career in this city, where his family has been well known for many years. Mr. Kuhr, was born at Hamilton, in 1890, a son of John and Anna (Haungs) Kuhr, natives of this city, where John L. Kuhr founded a grocery, coal and feed business in 1887, at the same location as that now occupied by his son's store. Like his father, Charles Kuhr, who was the emigrant from Baden, Germany, in early days, John L. Kuhr was a man who was universally esteemed in his community, and established a reputation for integrity and good citizenship which remained with him until the day of his death in 1903, and which has since served as an example for his son. The latter, Alfred C. Kuhr, was the only child of his parents, and attended the parochial schools of Hamilton and later Xavier college, Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in 1909. Returning to Hamilton, he assumed the management of the business which had formerly been conducted by his father, and since then has built up what is probably the most modern store of its kind at Hamilton. Mr. Kuhr handles the highest grade of staple and fancy groceries to be found anywhere, and the attractive manner in which they are displayed is something that

immediately secures the interest and admiration of the prospective customer. He has introduced modern methods into every department of his work, and his unfailing courtesy and obligingness assist in making a favorable impression. His standing in business circles of Hamilton is now an assured fact, and the confidence in which he is held by his associates is shown in the fact that he at present is secretary of the Retail Grocers' association. He is also a member of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and has various other business and civic connections. He belongs to St. Mary's Catholic church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Kuhr was married in 1912 to Miss Nellie B. Jennewein of this city. They have no children.

Henry J. Kumler, now deceased, was for many years one of the energetic farmers of Butler county, Ohio, but he passed his last years at Hamilton, where he lived in comfortable retirement at No. 928 Dayton street, the present residence of his widow. He was born at Millville, Butler county, Ohio, February 27, 1838. The Kumler family was founded in this country by Jacob Kumler, born in Switzerland, but a resident of the American colonies from the time he was seventeen years old. A few years after his settlement in Lancaster county, Pa., he was married to Elizabeth Young, and they had the following children: John, Jacob, Henry, Michael and Elizabeth, and of these, Henry was the grandfather of Henry J. Kumler, whose name heads this review. When he was only eight years old, he having been born January 3, 1775, Henry Kumler had the misfortune to lose his mother, so he grew to manhood without her fostering care. In 1797, he was united in marriage with Miss Susanna Wingert, who survived him many years, and lived to be ninety-six years of age. They had twelve children, as follows: one who died in childhood, Hannah, Henry, Susan, Elizabeth, Daniel, Elias, Jacob, Michael, Joseph, John and Catherine. Of these children, two became ministers of the gospel and one was a physician, and two of his sons-in-law were also ministers, but all were interested in agriculture, as was Henry Kumler. He always felt that the natural means of gaining a living was farming, and he reared his children to have a love for the soil, which attribute has been handed down to his many descendants. His liking for farming was not merely theoretical, but practical, and as long as he lived he owned farm land, and took an active part in its cultivation, but at the same time he was a powerful factor in church work, and an eloquent preacher. While he had early connected himself with the German Reformed church, he did not feel called upon to give forth to the world his religious convictions until he was about thirty-six years of age, when in 1811, he became impressed with the necessity of devoting more attention to his spiritual welfare, and first confiding in his wife, began to work among his immediate family. So convincing was he, that before long he had at least thirty persons interested and prayer meetings were held by them. Both he and his brother-in-law, Jacob Wingert, one of his first converts, began to address the meetings, and they became so popular that their services were demanded by other bodies. Henry Kumler always spoke with great simplicity, earnestness and much feeling, moving others profoundly, and bringing into

the church large numbers. At that time much prejudice was felt because a layman addressed a religious meeting, and this so operated against the little body of followers of Henry Kumler, that he felt it necessary to withdraw from the German Reformed church in which he had held membership for fifteen years, and he had held office with that denomination more than once. Desiring to connect with some regularly organized religious society, and feeling that the creed of the United Brethren in Christ was one to which he could conscientiously subscribe, Mr. Kumler attended the annual conference at Hagerstown, Md., and was by this conference licensed to preach the gospel. The following year the annual conference was held at his residence. During the first year of his ministry, Mr. Kumler accompanied some of the itinerating preachers in their rounds, but at the beginning of his second year, he was assigned to a large circuit, which included Greencastle, Pa., and the surrounding country, his labors being so heavy that it was necessary for him to have an assistant. So prominent did he become, that during that second year, he was elected a delegate to the meeting that formulated the first discipline of the church of the United Brethren in Christ. His ability and eloquence received proper appreciation from his colleagues, and in 1816 he was assigned to what was called the Virginia circuit, and he was obliged to travel on horseback 370 miles every four weeks. His associates in this traveling ministry were Reverends Schneider, Dehoff, Spayth and Joseph Hoffman, who had charge of the old Otterbein church at Baltimore, Md. Further honors came to Henry Kumler, for in 1817, he was elected presiding elder, and for thirteen successive Sundays he held protracted meetings, the over-exertion connected with them resulting in a serious illness which extended over sixteen weeks, and nearly resulted in his death, but fortunately for his work, he recovered. Up to 1918 the doctrines of his society had not been spread west of the Allegheny mountains, but in that year he brought his family to Butler county, Ohio, and located near Miltonville and Seven Mile, and began at once to teach his neighbors his principles of belief, being very successful in converting them to a better manner of living. Mr. Kumler thoroughly understood his people. He did not try any labored preaching, or the expounding of abstruse theories, but spoke as one man to another, simply and sincerely, using homely illustrations, well within their comprehension. His manner was singularly winning, his themes full of encouragement to the pious and affection for those who had still to be convinced of the error of their ways. While he always preached in the German language, so that many of his hearers did not understand his words, his earnestness oftentimes so impressed them, that they were converted, and they followed the example of his upright, godly life. Still later he was made general superintendent of his church, and being an astute financier, he eventually put its affairs in a very prosperous condition. While he was mild of temper, and well balanced, when he deemed it necessary to rebuke the wrongdoer, he could do so in a manner that was never forgotten. True to his convictions of duty, he lived up to them, no matter at what cost. He was noted for his cheerful disposition, and

oftentimes he was able to point a moral by one of his apt stories. After serving as bishop of his church for twenty years, he finally retired, when about seventy years old, but never lost his interest in the church. All his life he was generous in his benefactions, and although he died a wealthy man, he probably would have been worth double that amount, had he not given so freely. One of his sons, Jacob Kumler, also born in Pennsylvania, was married to Fannie Burtner, of the same state, and they came with Henry Kumler to Butler county, Ohio, and bought land near Miltonville. This land was covered with heavy timber, but he cleared it off and developed a fine farm. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the United Brethren in Christ society, of which Henry Kumler was so long bishop and general superintendent. They died on their home farm, having had the following children: George, who served during the Civil war in the Ninety-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, was killed at the battle of Chickamauga; Abram, who was also a soldier during the Civil war, died February, 1919, at Oxford, Ohio; Margaret, who is the wife of Daniel D. Beal, lives in Wapakoneta, Ohio; Henry J., whose name heads this review; John, who also served his country as a Civil war soldier, was killed at the battle of Stone River; Simon, who was in the Union army during the Civil war, was killed at the battle of Missionary Ridge; Benjamin, who lives at Austin, Texas; Orrin, who lives at Greenville, Ohio; Rev. Frank, who lives at DeGraff, Ohio, is a preacher of the Presbyterian church; and Louis A., who lives at DeGraff, Ohio. Henry J. Kumler was reared on the home farm, his father agreeing with the grandfather in his desire to make of his sons farmers first, no matter along what channels their abilities might later take them. He was sent to the local schools, and had he desired to enter a profession, funds would have been forthcoming for his training. The precipitation of the country into the horrors of a civil war, changed many plans, and perhaps those of Henry J. Kumler, but at any rate he measured up to the highest standards of American manhood, and enlisted in the defense of the Union, in August, 1862, in Company F, Ninety-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Venice, Ohio, whence he was sent to Nashville, Tenn. Before he reached the front, he was stricken down with a wasting illness which confined him to the hospital for three months and he was then honorably discharged for disability, and sent home. In the meanwhile, during December, 1860, Henry J. Kumler had been married to Mary Minton, a daughter of Peter and Hannah (Conklin) Minton. Peter Minton was born in County Cork, Ireland, but left his native land in 1811, when eighteen years old, and came to the United States, settling in Butler county, Ohio. For two years he was in the employ of Jacob Kumler, and then conducted a store near Riley, and later bought a farm, cleared off the heavy timber, and made it a valuable property. This farm was located in Hanover township, near Oxford, Butler county. Although he began with nothing, he became a man of means and one very highly-respected. His death occurred when he was seventy-eight years old, but his wife died when only forty-nine years old. For many years he was a member of the church of the United Brethren

in Christ. He and his wife had the following children: Mrs. Kumler; Joseph, who was accidentally shot in young manhood; William, who is a veteran of the Civil war, is a farmer of Millville, Ohio; Hannah and Elizabeth, both of whom are deceased; Harvey, who is a farmer of Hanover township; Martha, who is the widow of William Rosecrans, lives at Eaton, Ohio; Ida, who is deceased, was Mrs. William Hanaford; and Rebecca, who married Elmore Wiley, lives east of Hamilton, Ohio. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Kumler located on a farm in Wayne township, Butler county, south of Jacksonboro, and here they resided for a quarter of a century, with the exception of the time Mr. Kumler was in the army. In 1888, Mr. Kumler retired, and moving to Hamilton, Ohio, there died, December 12, 1916. He and his excellent wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church. His political convictions made him a staunch Republican. He inherited many of the sterling characteristics of his grandfather, Bishop Kumler, and like the elder man possessed the faculty of making friends and attaching them to him for life. Although he never aspired to public preferment, had he so desired, doubtless he could have had almost any of the local offices, his personal popularity being so strong, and the appreciation of his qualities so pronounced.

Joseph E. Kumler. A descendant of the eminent and scholarly Bishop Henry Kumler, who came to Ohio from Franklin county, Pa., at an early date and who for years was one of the distinguished high dignitaries of his church, is found in the person of Joseph E. Kumler, who for years has been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Butler county. Mr. Kumler is now the owner of a farm in the northeastern part of the county, near West Middletown, and is known as one of his community's reliable and public-spirited citizens. He was born on a farm in Butler county, a son of Henry and Margaret (Zellar) Kumler, and was reared in a home where industry and honorable conduct were considered among the leading virtues. He was reared like most farmers' sons of his time, but had better educational advantages than many of his fellows, first attending the district schools, later the normal school at Lebanon, and finally spending one year in the college at Westerville, Ohio. When his education was completed he returned to the farm, and at the time he entered upon his own career took up agricultural work as a means of livelihood, having found prosperity and contentment in the tilling of the soil. Mr. Kumler is an advocate of modern methods and his farm of 163 acres, lying on West Middletown Rural Route, shows the effects obtainable through a study of new discoveries and the use of up-to-date machinery. As a progressive man he has given much thought to appearances, and his buildings are attractive and his farm and all appliances thereto are kept in first class repair. He is a staunch Republican, and while he confines his interest in public affairs to that taken by any good citizen, has contributed of his talents, means and time to the furtherance of worthy movements. With his family, Mr. Kumler belongs to the United Brethren church at West Middletown. In 1888 Mr. Kumler was married to Miss Luella McGonigle, and they became the parents of six children: Joseph Zellar, de-

ceased; Harry E., a resident of Dayton; Stanley, deceased; Howard and Lee, who make their homes at Dayton; and an infant, deceased.

Peter Kurtz, who for eight years has been identified with the American Rolling mills, at Middletown, is a well-known, enterprising and progressive man, who, starting out in life for himself as a youth, has since been dependent upon his own resources, gaining all that he now possesses through his own energy and ability. He was born at North Industry, Ohio, August 22, 1882, a son of John B. and Mary (De Watceur) Kurtz, the former of whom died in 1901, while the latter still survives as a resident of North Industry. Mr. Kurtz has one sister, Edith, the wife of Charles Roshong, of Canton. Peter Kurtz received a public school education in his youth and when he entered upon his career it was in connection with the steel business, a line which he has followed ever since. He was variously employed for a number of years, and for a time was located at New Philadelphia, Ohio, whence he came in 1911 to Middletown to accept an important position with the American Rolling mills. He has advanced steadily in this company's service, and is now one of its most trusted employees. On January 20, 1903, Mr. Kurtz was married to Miss Ona Elizabeth Hurst, who was born August 16, 1886, at Magnolia, Ohio, daughter of John and Arilla (Gregory) Hurst. Mrs. Hurst comes of Revolutionary ancestry, her great-great-grandfather Green having fought in that struggle in the army of Gen. George Washington. Her grandfather married for his second wife an aunt of ex-President William H. Taft. One of her uncles fought in the Union army during the Civil war and lost his life on the battlefield of Gettysburg. John Hurst, who served in the Civil war as corporal, receiving his honorable discharge therefrom, died April 5, 1914, while his widow still survives. They were the parents of the following children: John, Edward, Harry, Mary of Canton, Margaret, deceased, and Ona Elizabeth. To Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz there have been born these children: John Hurst, born August 30, 1904; Arthur Thomas, born December 10, 1906; Pressley, deceased, who was born June 10, 1907, and died August 12, 1907; Margaret, born August 30, 1910; Wilbur, born March 17, 1912, died May 26, 1912; and Mary, born January 17, 1914; and Mildred Catherine, born July 3, 1919. Since coming to Middletown, Mr. Kurtz has contributed to the upbuilding of the city an attractive and comfortable home located on Shafor avenue, where he and his wife are always pleased to welcome their friends, of whom these prepossessing people with likeable personalities have many. Mr. Kurtz stands for principle rather than party in politics. He is affiliated with the Eagles, Moose, Red Men and Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers.

Herman L. Kutter, secretary, sales manager and technical engineer of the Black-Clawson company, of Hamilton, an organization of financial strength and country-wide reputation, is one of the able and forceful business men of this city. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, a son of L. and Marie Kutter, natives of the same country, where the father, a paper manufacturer, died, while the mother still survives and is a resident of Silesia. Of the children, Herman,

Richard, Rudolph and Eugene, all are living except Richard. After completing a technical course in paper manufacturing and paper mill operation, Herman Kutter came to the United States at the age of twenty years and took employment with the Bagley & Sewell company, at Watertown, N. Y. After being with that concern for a short time, he was employed with a paper mill in Wisconsin, and then became machine tender for the same company. Going to the Michigan Sulphite Fibre company, of Port Huron, Mich., he was made assistant superintendent, and then associated himself with the Lake Superior Paper company, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., in the capacity of construction engineer. Mr. Kutter came to the Black-Clawson company, of Hamilton, as a draughtsman, rose to be chief draughtsman, and was eventually made secretary, sales manager and chief engineer, which position he now holds, his duties being chiefly technical in character, including the designing of paper and pulp making machinery, and in this connection his name has become widely known in the industry and bids fair to become still more familiar. As a guiding principle throughout his life, Mr. Kutter has always adhered to the motto: "It can be done." To timidly accept failure at the gruff command of dissappointment has failed utterly to accord with his strong character and superior ability, and any project which initially has received the endorsement of his better judgment has had his enthusiastic support to the very end. He belongs to various scientific societies, including the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Pulp Paper Technical association, and his high standing in business circles is evidenced by his secretaryship of the Manufacturers' association of Hamilton. He is also a member of the Hamilton club and the Hamilton Country club, and is a Mason of high standing and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, Syrian Temple, Cincinnati. In 1894 Mr. Kutter married Florence, daughter of Thomas Kennedy, of Detroit, Mich. During the war period, Mrs. Kutter had charge of the knitted woolens in this locality for the Red Cross society.

George Huston Kyger. Belonging to one of the honored pioneer families of Butler county, George Huston Kyger is numbered among its native sons, his birth having occurred at Darrtown, where he now lives, July 17, 1878, a son of Huston Daniel Kyger. He has passed his life here as a farmer and stock raiser and is accounted one of his community's most progressive and enterprising agriculturists and substantial citizens. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Kyger, Daniel and Ann (Teegarden) Kyger, were pioneer settlers of Butler county, taking up land on section 30, Milford township. This was all wild property, but the sturdy grandparents transformed the wilderness into a productive farm and comfortable home and there rounded out long and honorable careers. They were the parents of [illegible] children: George, deceased, who was a merchant at Oxford, [illegible] Moses, deceased, who was a resident of that place; Huston Daniel; Maria, deceased who was the wife of John Wallace, deceased; Henrietta deceased, who was the wife of Joseph Nichols; and Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of the late John Chatten. Huston Daniel Kyger was educated in the home schools of Darr-

town, in which community he was reared as a farmer on the home place, and was married in 1871 to Louisa Flenner, of Milford township, a daughter of Adam and Catherine (Wehr) Flenner, natives of Butler county and farming people of Woodsdale, Ohio. Adam and Catherine Flenner were the parents of these children: Chambers, a farmer of Milford township, who married Laura Elliott of Darrtown and died March 3, 1899; Nathan, who is single and resides at Darrtown; Louisa, who became Mrs. Kyger; Harriet, who married William Levin of Darrtown; Lavanda, the widow of John Clements, of Hamilton; and Catherine, who married Cornelius Irwin. For his second wife, Adam Flenner married Amanda Harnnek, of Westchester, Ohio, and they had these children: Ollie, who is deceased; Frank; James, of Trenton, Ohio; Elizabeth, who married Joseph Wehr, of Overpeck, Ohio; and Isabelle, who married George Cook, of Westchester. Early in his career, Huston Daniel Kyger became a breeder of fine trotting horses and gradually developed into a man of national reputation in that line, having bred and owned such horses as Kit Kurry, Mansfield, Ed Ammon, Frank and others. He followed the racing circuit for thirty-five years all over the United States, but while he was one of the best known horsemen of his day did not devote his time entirely to that business, as he was also the owner of a fine farm and a planing mill and sawmill, in addition to which he carried on an extensive tobacco business, in which latter he lost some $65,000 when he was burned out in 1876. He was a Democrat in politics and an influential man in his party during his day, and as a fraternalist was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was also the principal founder of the Home Protective association, of which he was the author of the by-laws, and was always active in matters of this kind. His death occurred September 19, 1908, at the age of seventy-four years, while Mrs. Kyger passed away in 1886, aged forty years, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of five children: Anna, who married William Ramsey, of Darrtown; Ella, who died single; George H., of this notice; John F.; and Catherine, who married Clarence McVicker, of Darrtown. John F. Kyger, of Darrtown, is a farmer of Butler county and in partnership with his brother, George H. He is president of the Butler County Farmers' bureau and of the Queen City Milk Producers' association of Cincinnati, a breeder of pure bred Holstein cattle and active in township and county affairs. He married Miss Effie Meeks. Like his brothers and sisters, George Huston Kyger attended the public schools of his native place and was reared on the home farm, where the brothers remained with their father until the elder man's death. With him they had been in the trotting horse business for several years and had assisted him in developing some of his most famous animals, but in 1915, the brothers, who had taken over the management of the farm, turned their attention more particularly to the raising of pure bred Holstein cattle, a business in which they have continued to the present, with constantly-increasing success. Mr. Kyger and his brother operate a farm of 225 acres, devoted to general farming purposes, and are accounted among the most pro-

gressive and thoroughly capable men in their line in this part of the county. Their farm work is characterized by the use of the most highly improved equipment and nothing but modern methods, practically applied, are sanctioned. George Huston Kyger was married June 6, 1916, to Maria Kabig, born in Wood county, Ohio, and they are the parents of two children: Helen Louise, born April 17, 1917; and Frank Huston, born April 2, 1919. Mr. Kyger is a staunch Democrat in politics, and as a fraternalist is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Darrtown.

Benjamin Franklin Kyle. The Kyle family is one of the pioneers in Ohio, it having been founded in this state at a very early date by Samuel Kyle, a native of Pennsylvania, who, impressed by the tales of the desirable lands to be secured in the newly opened region, made the then long and dangerous trip overland from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and located permanently in Butler county, his original farm being the site of the present Kyle Station, named in his honor. He obtained a section of land, and when his four sons reached their majority, each one was given 160 acres. These sons were as follows: Samuel and James, both of whom lived on the old homestead; Robert, who lives in Illinois; and Roland, who lived on the homestead. James Kyle, the father of Benjamin F., was born in Pennsylvania, and was brought by his father to Butler county, O., where he spent the remainder of his life, and there died. In politics a staunch Republican, he was too much occupied by his agricultural activities, which included farming and stock raising upon an extensive scale, to enter into the race for political preferment. The Methodist Episcopal church had in him a conscientious member. James Kyle was married first to a Miss Clark, and second to a Mrs. Conover. By his first marriage, James Kyle had three children, namely: Marian, who married A. C. Martin; Benjamin F., whose name heads this review; and James, who lived for some time at Kyle Station, later moved to Cincinnati, O. All of these children are now deceased. The children by his second marriage were also three in number. Benjamin Franklin Kyle, who is now deceased, was born in Butler county, O., in 1837, and he died May 23, 1900, on his old homestead. Growing up in Butler county, he was given the advantages provided by the local schools, Monroe academy and business college of Cincinnati, Ohio, and he also learned to be a farmer from his experienced father, remaining on the homestead until 1864, when he left Ohio for Illinois, and for a time was interested in manufacturing gang saws at Rock Island, under the firm name of Donaldson & Kyle. After four years at Rock Island, in 1869, he returned to Butler county, O., and resumed his agricultural operations, becoming one of the leading farmers and stockmen of his locality. When he died he had been for forty years a member of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, and its oldest living member. While still living at Rock Island, Mr. Kyle was married in 1868, to Miss Helen Leiter, born in Stark county, O., a daughter of S. K. Leiter, who came at an early date to Stark county, O., where he was married. Later he brought his family to Hamilton, O., arriving here in 1845, and he and his wife had three children, namely: Mrs. Kyle, and Frank A., who served as a soldier

in the Union army during the Civil war, and after his discharge, located at Toledo, O.; and Clara, who died in childhood. After he came to Hamilton, Mr. Leiter, who was a carpenter by trade, opened a sash, door and blind factory, and operated it as well as conducting a large contracting business, erecting a number of the residences and business blocks of his day, including the opera house and the Burdette block. In 1870, he went to Emporia, Kans., where he was extensively interested in the coal mining industry. In 1875 he moved to Chicago, Ill., there engaging in business for several years, and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Kyle, at the ripe old age of eighty-one years. After the death of his first wife, in 1847, Mr. Leiter was married (second) to Sarah Morris of Hamilton, Ohio, who is also deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kyle had the following children born to them: Harry, deceased; Blanche, who is living at Cincinnati, O.; Walter, who is also living at Cincinnati, O., married Mary Blodgett and has five children; Josie, who married William E. Brophy, lives in Liberty township, Butler county, O.; and Alice, who resides with her mother. These children were all carefully reared and given good educational opportunities, and are a source of great comfort and justifiable pride to their mother. While never inclined to place himself in the line of political preferment, Mr. Kyle always did his duty as a citizen, and cast his vote for the candidates of the Republican party. For many years he maintained his membership with the Bethany (Ohio) Methodist Episcopal church, and gave generously towards its support. He was a man whose judgments were upright and sincere; he never asked more of any man than he was willing to give in return, and he enjoyed a popularity which was widespread and well merited. In March, 1917, Mrs. Kyle moved to Hamilton, where she and Miss Alice have since resided. A lady of unusual attainments, she and her daughter have gathered about them a congenial circle of friends, with whom they are as popular as they were with those with whom they were associated in Butler county.

John W. Kyle. Among the old and honored residents of Butler county's agricultural contingent, few can boast of better or more loyal service to the community's interests over a long period of years than can John W. Kyle. Since young manhood he has been a successful tiller of the soil, and for many years he has occupied positions of public trust and responsibility, and under all conditions he has shown himself eminently worthy of the confidence reposed in him. Mr. Kyle was born on the old Kyle homestead in Lemon township, Butler county, O., November 15, 1842, a son of William Kyle. The family was founded in Liberty township, Butler county, at an early day by the grandfather of John W. Kyle, Thomas Kyle, who bought land upon his arrival from Pennsylvania. He passed his entire life here in the development of a farm and was a true type of the sturdy, honest pioneer citizens who paved the way for later development and progress. William Kyle was born on the old homestead in Liberty township and there passed his entire life in agricultural pursuits. Like his father, he was a man who commanded respect because of the sterling qualities of his character and

JOHN W. KYLE

who took a keen and helpful interest in the welfare of his community. He was married in this township to Miss Sarah Cheesman, whose people were early settlers of Butler county, and to this union there were born four children: John W., of this notice; Lydia, who married John Van Skaik, and died February 15, 1888; Martha, who lives on the old homestead. In the sketch of William Kyle in this work the genealogy of the Kyle family will be found; and Louis. John W. Kyle received a district school education and also attended the public school at Monroe, and grew up on the home farm, where he made his home until his first marriage. This occurred in 1865, when he was united with Naomi Van Skaik, of Lemon township, a daughter of George Van Skaik. She died August 1, 1871, leaving one daughter, Tena, who was cared for by her grandparents till their demise and who now resides with her Aunt Martha, on the old homestead, which they own conjointly. For his second wife Mr. Kyle married Lizzie Ammons, who died August 31, 1902, she being a daughter of Garwood Ammons. Mr. Kyle was married a third time, being united with Mary E. Anderson, of Lemon township, widow of John Anderson, and a daughter of Frank Garver. After his first marriage Mr. Kyle located on a farm near Monroe, O., where he bought a tract of thirty-five acres, and on which he resided for practically a quarter of a century. During 1886 and 1887 he served as superintendent of the Butler County infirmary, and in 1890 located on his grandfather's old place, where he resided for two years. In 1891 and 1892 he was again superintendent of the Butler County infirmary, and then located on the old homestead once more, but in 1913 took up his residence on the Shoemaker farm, where he lived for four years. In 1918 he settled on the Cole farm, in Lemon township, one and one-half miles east of Middletown, where he has since carried on successful operations on his 200-acre tract. Mr. Kyle is now largely engaged in general farming, but in former years was greatly interested in the breeding of Poland China hogs and fine horses, with which he took many valuable prizes, and is still considered one of the best judges of live stock in his county. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is a generous and large-hearted man who has many friends in his community. In his political views he is a Democrat, and for a quarter of a century served Lemon township on its board of trustees.

William Kyle. The substantive claim of the late William Kyle for enumeration among the representative citizens who in the past have assisted in the development of Butler county, rests upon a long career of constructive agricultural endeavor and splendid discharge of the responsibilities of good citizenship. During his long and useful life he exemplified at all times the possession of the highest integrity, and while his death occurred a number of years ago, his memory is still kept green in the hearts of the many who had come to know of his sterling qualities of mind and heart. William Kyle belonged to one of the earliest settled families of Butler county, and was born November 14, 1813, on the old Kyle homestead, in Lemon township. His father, Samuel Kyle, was born at Mercersburg, Pa., February 23, 1785, and died February 1, 1870; and his mother,

Martha (Long) Kyle, who was married January 28, 1808, was born July 13, 1790, and died March 2, 1864. Their children were as follows: Thomas, born January 4, 1809, married Eliza Harkrader; James, born November 4, 1810; William; Elizabeth, born August 26, 1815, married Thomas Van Cleave and died September 6, 1891; Jane, born September 26, 1819, married Jacob Mulford, and died April 10, 1871; Sarah Ann, born September 24, 1820, married John Harkrader; Maria, born June 21, 1825, married George Bercaw, and died March 16, 1876; John, born December 29, 1829, died February 10, 1841; and Samuel, born February 5, 1832, married, first, Mary Webster, and second, Josephine Lyon, and died December 28, 1910. Samuel Kyle the elder was one of the earliest settlers of Liberty township, Butler county. In March, 1803, in company with his father, Thomas Kyle, he came down the Ohio river in a flatboat to Cincinnati, at that time a small hamlet, and made his way thence to Liberty township, where he located on a farm and lived on it for sixty years. A man of marked industry and real ability, he accumulated a competence for his declining years and was also able to furnish farms for all his children, and his success in life was not bought at the sacrifice of his personal integrity; on the contrary his transactions were always notably free from any taint of dishonesty or doubtful methods. William Kyle, growing up in a new and undeveloped country, had only somewhat limited opportunities to gain an education. However, he was observant and intelligent and in making the most of his chances was able to become a well educated man and one of broad knowledge of essential facts. He was reared on the home farm and there remained until his marriage, February 1, 1842, to Miss Sarah Cheesman, who was born in New Jersey, May 13, 1823, daughter of Abijah and Hannah (Parker) Cheesman. This family came early to Butler county, O., where Mr. Cheesman was engaged in agricultural pursuits. There were the following children in the Cheesman family: Sarah, who died January 13, 1914; Anna, born October 8, 1825, who married first John Kyle and second Stacey Brant and died February 27, 1910; Lewis, born October 13, 1827, died January 8, 1915; Elizabeth, born September 16, 1830, who is the widow of Peter Shafer and lives in Liberty township; John, born February 15, 1833, who married Eliza Clark, now deceased, and lives in Liberty township; Lydia, born November 7, 1836, and died June 14, 1919; William, born December 13, 1841, who married Emmeline Kyle, and died August 16, 1897, his widow living at Monroe, died April 28, 1909; and Mary Jane, born January 10, 1845, who married Samuel Mulford, and died May 26, 1883. Following his marriage, William Kyle settled on the farm in Lemon township which is now occupied by his daughter and granddaughter. At that time it consisted of eighty-one acres, and was practically devoid of improvements, but Mr. Kyle's industry and good management soon remedied matters, and in addition to clearing his land and to putting in many modern improvements and erecting good buildings, added fifty-six acres to his property. As the years passed, he became well-to-do through his well-directed efforts, and when he died, July 2, 1885, he was accounted one of

WILLIAM KYLE

SARAH KYLE

the substantial men of his community. While he was a great man for his home, and found his greatest pleasure there, he was by no means indifferent to the pleasure of companionship of his fellowmen, and was widely known and well liked. While he was a staunch Democrat, his political activities were largely confined to the casting of his vote, although he was interested in the welfare of his community, and an ardent supporter of every movement which promised civic progress of any kind. He and his wife, who is also deceased, became the parents of the following children: John, a farmer of Lemon township, a sketch of whom will be found in another page of this work, has one daughter, Tena, by his first wife, who has always made her home with her aunt Martha and grandmother on the home place in Lemon township; Lydia, deceased February 15, 1888, who was the wife of John Van Skaik; Martha, single, who has always made her home on the old farm; Lewis, who resided on the homestead until his death, in 1901; and Hannah, who died at the age of two years. Martha and Tena Kyle, who now occupy the home place, are the owners of this property, which now consists of 197 acres of valuable and productive land. The farm is under a good state of cultivation and as operated is a decidedly paying investment. Both aunt and niece are well known to the people of Lemon township, where they have spent their entire lives, and are highly esteemed and have numerous warm and affectionate friends and well-wishers.

Francis Ellsworth Lacey. In Francis Ellsworth Lacey, Butler county has a farmer who conforms his labor to high standards. His present property is located in Ross township, in which community he stands high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Lacey was born on a farm in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, August 15, 1866, a son of Wesley and Elizabeth (Riley) Lacey. The father, a native of Pennsylvania, was brought as a lad to Butler county by his parents and here passed a long and honorable career in the pursuits of the soil. Levi and Thomas Lacey, brothers of Wesley, fought as soldiers of the Union during the Civil war. The children of Wesley and Elizabeth Lacey were: Willie, Charles, George W.; Mary, who became Mrs. Daniel Bevington; Isabella, who became Mrs. Joseph Luechener; Wesley, Thomas and Francis Ellsworth. Francis E. Lacey received a public school education in the rural districts of Fairfield township, and when he left school began to apply himself to farming in association with his father. His independent career was not started until after his marriage to Zona, daughter of Montgomery Alston, of Fairfield township. Mrs. Lacey died several years later, leaving one child, Frances Elizabeth. Later Mr. Lacey was united in marriage with Ipha, daughter of Robert Vaughan, of Brown county, Ohio, and to this union there have been born two children: Hazel Marie and Edith May. Mr. Lacey has devoted himself to farming and has made a success of his operations, his property in Ross township being a highly improved, productive and valuable country estate. Notwithstanding his many home duties, he is active in general township affairs, and is a staunch Republican. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masons and the Eagles.

William E. Lackey. Of the men who have passed their lives in the Miami valley, and who have devoted their energies to the vocation of farming, none have a better record for success fairly and honorably won, in a straightforward manner and without animosity, than has William E. Lackey, whose model farm is located in Madison township, Butler county. Mr. Lackey began his career under humble circumstances, and the success that has come to him has been the direct result of his own industry and well-directed efforts. Mr. Lackey was born on Clear Creek, Warren county, Ohio, October 19, 1853, a son of John and Unity (Wells) Lackey, natives of Butler county, although the maternal grandparents were from Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Lackey had a large family. John Lackey, during a somewhat varied career, lived at various places in Ohio, at Ridgeville, Harpersburg, near Dayton and Franklin, and died at Lebanon, in December, 1905. He was employed at various occupations, although his principal vocation was farming, and was a man who had the esteem and friendship of his neighbors in whatever community he resided. He and Mrs. Lackey, who died June 27, 1900, had the following children: William E., of this notice; Lincoln, a resident of Lebanon, Ohio; Horace; Addie, of Centerville, Ohio; Harry; Cassie, of Franklin; Essie, of Detroit, Mich.; Bertha and Jobe, both deceased; and Harter, a carpenter of Dayton. William E. Lackey received only a common school education, and this somewhat limited, as, being oldest in his family's large household, he was expected to be his father's chief assistant in procuring the family income. He remained under the parental roof until he nearly reached his majority, and was married January 31, 1884, to Ada May Earnhart, who was born north of Lebanon, Ohio, a daughter of Charles E. and Maria (Graham) Earnhart, natives of Warren county, Ohio, and farming people. Their children were William, who makes his home in Missouri; David LeRoy of Waynesville; Perry L., who lives north of Lebanon; Elmer, a resident of Dayton; Ada M.; Anna E.; Homer, deceased; **Clara B.;** Hattie and Ralph. To Mr. and Mrs. Lackey there have been born five children, as follows: Florence, who died at the age of eleven years; Carrie, who married David Weikel of Madison township and has four children, Homer, Marie, Elmer and Ada May; Mabel, who resides with her parents and is single; and Ethel, who married George Smith and has two children, Florence and Esther; and Ralph at home. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lackey settled on a farm north of Lebanon, from which community they removed to near Lytle, where they spent nine years in farming. From the Lytle property they came to the farm which Mr. Lackey now owns, in section 28, Madison township, where he has 105 acres under cultivation. By constant, systematic and intelligent care he has made this one of the handsome and valuable farms of the county. He is a general farmer, as well as a breeder of stock, and in all departments of farm work has displayed thorough knowledge and splendid mechanical and business capacity. As before noted, he started life with but little to encourage him save his own self-reliance and determination, and with these he has overcome all the

obstacles which have lain in his path. Mr. Lackey is a public-spirited citizen and takes an interest in the affairs of the township and county. In him church and school have always found a ready help and advocate, and his time and means are freely given to the maintenance of the public welfare. His political support is enlisted upon behalf of the Republican party.

August H. Lamb. Among the men who in past years were identified with business matters at Middletown, and who, because of their excellent commercial qualifications and talent, as well as their business integrity, are still remembered by their former associates, was the late August H. Lamb. A native of this city, he was distinctively a product of its virile life, by education, by training and by inclination, and his record was one that reflected credit upon himself and upon his community, whether taken from the standpoint of business acumen or from the viewpoint of good citizenship. Mr. Lamb was born at Middletown, Ohio, September 24, 1855, a son of Adam and Barbara (Walter) Lamb. His parents, natives of Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1852, and for a number of years Adam Lamb was successfully engaged at Middletown in real estate ventures and the grocery business. Both he and his wife are now deceased. They were the parents of four children: August H.; Mrs. Mary Huffman, who is deceased; Millie, now Mrs. G. Smedley, a resident of Hamilton, Ohio; and Frank, of Cincinnati. August Lamb received his education in the public schools of Middletown, and when he entered business it was after a preliminary training by his father. He was associated with the elder man for some time, but later embarked upon ventures of his own, in which he won success because of his marked and inherent business talent, his great industry and his faculty for close application and lasting perseverance. He was one of his city's most charitable men, and no worthy request met with an unfavorable reply from him. He was also a staunch supporter of movements calculated to help the city, and was the prime mover in a number of enterprises which made for better and cleaner civic life. When he died, December 15, 1918, at the age of sixty-three years, his community lost one of its best citizens. Mr. Lamb was married December 11, 1896, to Mrs. Elizabeth (Luibel) Green, the widow of the late D. J. Green. Mrs. Lamb married her first husband in 1896, and they were the parents of one daughter, Clara Emma, who, June 7, 1888, married Nathan Oglesby, shipping clerk at the Colin-Gardner Paper company, at Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Oglesby are the parents of six children: Edwin, who married Helen Royce of Portsmouth, Ohio; Ruth, who married Harold Royce, of Portsmouth; and Elizabeth, Mildred, August and Nathan, who reside with their parents. Mrs. Lamb is a daughter of Frank and Frances (Stricker) Luibel, natives of Germany who came to the United States as young people and settled at Cincinnati. They became the parents of the following children: Frank; Louis, of Springfield, Ohio, who is deceased; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Lamb; Adelina; Mrs. Cornelius Kelly, who is deceased; Frances; and Mrs. Michael Meehan. Mrs. Lamb, who survives her husband and still resides at Middletown, has recently

remodeled her beautiful home on Tytus avenue, where she has twelve acres in the grounds. Since her husband's death she has managed his estate in an excellent manner, being a woman of splendid business qualifications, and has also taken care of his various charities. She is a faithful member of St. Johns church and has taken an active part in the religious, missionary and benevolent work of that congregation.

George Lamb, a lifelong resident of Middletown and one of her most influential citizens, is a son of George Charles and Bena (Young) Lamb, who came from New York to Middletown seventy years ago and for fifteen years was engaged in active business pursuits. His death occurred seventeen years ago; that of Mrs. Lamb on December 25, 1894. The subject of this sketch had two brothers and one sister—Charles at Rockford, Ill.; Peter in Middletown; Bena, Mrs. W. H. Drayer, deceased. October 28, 1887, he married Miss Sevilla Becker, daughter of Michael and Sevilla (Boecher) Becker, of New Middletown, Ind. She had two brothers and a sister: Peter and Michael, farmers in Butler county, Ohio; Eva, deceased. Her father died eleven years ago; the mother still lives. Three sons out of the seven children born to them was the contribution made to the country by these parents: George C., in France; Raymond, in service; Dr. William, in the Navy. The other children are Stella, Mrs. Bob Greathouse; Walter, Edna and Edward, all in Middletown. Mr. Lamb is a man of pleasing personality and magnificent presence, public-spirited and very progressive. He was long engaged in the liquor business and met with great financial success. Several years ago he retired from active business life and built and furnished a palatial residence on Third street, where he, with his family, enjoys life. Mr. Lamb holds membership in St. Paul's church, and in politics is liberal.

Samuel C. Landis. In the career of Samuel C. Landis there has been demonstrated the fact that an individual can dominate in more than one line of activity. His life work has not been confined to a single avenue of effort, for he has been both educator and farmer, and in addition has served his locality capably and conscientiously in various official capacities, being an ex-state legislator and at present deputy auditor of Butler county. Samuel C. Landis, one of Hamilton's most highly esteemed and useful citizens, was born on a farm in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, December 11, 1856, a son of Jacob K. and Rebecca (Jones) Landis, the former a native of the same county and the latter of the village of Jacksonboro. Jacob K. Landis was a farmer up to the time of the Civil war, in which he fought bravely as a private in Company I, 5th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, but the hardships of war caused him to become an invalid, and as such he remained until his premature death in 1887. He and Mrs. Landis were the parents of three children: Samuel C.; Philip, who is deceased; and Beulah, the wife of Rolland Hiatt, of Straughn, Ind. After attending the public schools of Seven Mile, Ohio, Samuel C. Landis entered upon his career as an educator. For thirteen years he was thus engaged, and for six years was principal of the Third Ward school of Hamilton. During this time

he studied law, and was admitted to the state bar, but never took up the active practice of his profession. For some time he was engaged in farming in Butler county, and for three years was located at Blanchester, this state, as manager of the 1200-acre farm of Judge A. F. Hume, but in 1901 returned to Hamilton, and after two years spent in teaching again took up farming. In the meantime, in 1893, he had become the candidate of the Democratic party for the office of representative to the state legislature, and, being elected, served in that august body during the sessions of 1894-1895 and 1896-1897, working faithfully in behalf of his constituents and his state. On his return to Hamilton, he was appointed deputy auditor of Butler county, and after three years resumed farming in Butler county on his own property, where he remained until October, 1915. He was then appointed deputy auditor again, under Q. A. Davis, and has continued to serve in this capacity to the present time. He is a careful, accurate, energetic and thoroughly reliable official, and one whose experience and talents make him an excellent man in the position. Other public affairs have found him eager to share the responsibilities of citizenship, and during the war period he was particularly active, especially in the matter of assisting in the proper making out and filing of questionnaires, a duty which he took up by appointment. As a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks he was also very active in the sale of Liberty bonds and was a member of the War Savings Stamps committee of that order. Mr. Landis is the owner of an attractive home at No. 312 N. Second street. He is widely known and it has been said of him that every time he makes an acquaintance his list of friendships is increased by one. In 1888, Mr. Landis married Anna, daughter of John and Mary Harlow, farming people of the Hamilton community of Butler county, and to this union there was born one child: May E., the wife of Clarke Marion, of Overpeck, Ohio, with one daughter, Anna May. Mrs. Landis is a devout member of the Catholic church.

Harry G. Lang, a native of New York, son of George John and Louise (Kohm) Lang, was born in Buffalo, October 19, 1889, and received his education in the public schools of that city. In 1911, he located in Middletown, Ohio, and October 28, of the same year, married Marie Coyne, daughter of James and Hattie (Rue) Coyne, the result of which union was a daughter, Harriett Louise, born August 5, 1912. The parents of both Mr. and Mrs. Lang are still living. Mrs. Lang's father has been a mail carrier in Middletown for many years. She has also one sister, Ellen, Mrs. Gus. Nichol, of Middletown. Mr. Lang has two brothers and two sisters, William, John, Mamie, and Edna, living in Buffalo. For the past eight years, Mr. Lang has been associated with the American Rolling Mills company as a heater, and is one of the steady and reliable men connected with the plant. He is very conservative, a man of excellent judgment and has hosts of friends among his acquaintances and fellow-workmen. He is a member of the Episcopal church and fraternizes with the Elks and Eagles. In politics, he holds liberal views.

Amos Larew, who is known as the leading carpenter and builder of Union township and well known in his trade and otherwise, all

over Butler county, was born at Crestonville, Ohio, August 12, 1860, son of Henry and Mary Larew, grandson of Amos Larew and great-grandson of Moses Larew, who was the founder of the family in Ohio. In his earlier life Henry Larew was a farmer and owned 120 acres of excellent land. Later in life he followed the carpenter trade, and it was with his father that Amos Larew had his first practical training with adz, plane and saw. This has been Mr. Larew's business in life and all over the county may be found samples of his skill in house building. In 1884 he married Anna Kitchen, and they have four children, namely: Charles, George, Mary and Olive. Olive is the wife of Elmer Surface and they have three children: Robert, Homer and Catherine. Mr. Larew and his family belong to the Presbyterian church at West Chester. He is somewhat prominent in Democratic political circles, has taken part in many party caucuses and has served in the office of road supervisor.

Rudolph George Laubach. Among the men who have made excellent records as the incumbents of public office in Butler county, Rudolph George Laubach is an example. For a number of years a traveling salesman, and widely known in various parts of Ohio by reason of his business connections, he has proven a capable and faithful deputy sheriff, and during his residence at Hamilton has succeeded in forming a number of lasting friendships, based upon esteem and respect. Mr. Laubach was born in Butler county, Ohio, May 18, 1878, a son of Valentine and Marie (Schafer) Laubach, the former of whom came to the United States from his native Germany and settled as a young man in Lemon township, Butler county. Not long thereafter he met and married Marie Schafer, who had also been born in Germany, and who was a child when she came to Madison township, Butler county. After their marriage the parents settled on a farm in Butler county, and continued as honored and respected agricultural people of Lemon township during the remainder of their lives. They had four children: Dora, deceased, who was the wife of Arthur Millin, a resident of Florida; Herman, residing in Oklahoma; Paulina, the wife of Sheriff Pepper, of Butler county; and Rudolph G. After his graduation from the high school of Trenton, Ohio, Rudolph G. Laubach took a course in a commercial college at Hamilton, and at that time began traveling for wholesale houses. He was thus employed until 1916, when he was appointed a deputy sheriff of Butler county, a position in which he has since served with ability and faithful discharge of duty. He was married June 6, 1899, to Louisa, daughter of Charles and Catherine Ranke, the former of whom, a cooper by vocation, is now deceased, and the latter a resident of Hamilton. Their other children were Charles, William and Theresa. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Laubach resided for a time at Middletown, whence they came to Hamilton, and since 1903 have resided at their pleasant home on Campbell avenue. They are the parents of five children: Catherine, who is a stenographer in the Chamber of Commerce, and a graduate of high school and a commercial college; Oren, who is employed by the Miami Motor Car company; Robert, attending high school; and John and Russell, attending the graded schools. Mr. Laubach is

past dictator of the Loyal Order of Moose. Also a member of the Elks, Fraternal Order of Eagles and Commercial Travelers of America. He took an active part in all war activities, and was a supporter of the Red Cross, Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamps drives.

Dennis B. Lauderback. The qualities of common sense, ability, good judgment and perseverance have been applied in the active and energetic life of Dennis Burrel Lauderback, and have won for him a substantial position among the reliable men of his community. During the past seventeen years he has been identified with the American Rolling mill, and for five of these years has been employed at the plant at Middletown, where he occupies the post of roller. He was born at Georgetown, Ohio, April 25, 1878, a son of Michael W. and Agnes (Allen) Lauderback, the former a veteran of the Civil war, through which he fought as a soldier of the Union. Michael W. Lauderback died in 1907, while his widow still survives. They were the parents of nine children: Dennis B.; Mattie and John, who are deceased; Grant, of Pike county, Ohio; Allen and May, of Brown county, this state; Henry, deceased; and Rosa and Corda, residing with their mother. The last-named was with the 319th Field Signal Battalion which he joined at Massillon during the great war, and saw overseas service in France. Dennis B. Lauderback received a public school education at Georgetown, and as a young man learned his trade, which he followed at various places until locating at Cincinnati. From that city, in 1901, he went to Amanda, Ohio, and about that time entered the employ of the American Rolling Mill company, as a roller, with which concern he has since been identified. In 1914 he came to Middletown and entered the same plant as a roller, a position which he has since held and in which he has gained good standing as a reliable and thoroughly competent workman. Mr. Lauderback is a good manager and is the owner of an attractive home at No. 929 Logan avenue, in which neighborhood he has numerous friends, as he has also among his co-workers at the plant. He is a member of the local lodge of the Odd Fellows, and in his political alliance supports the candidates and principles of the Republican party. With his family, he belongs to the United Brethren church. April 24, 1900, Mr. Lauderback was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Stivers, of Cincinnati, and to this union there have been born the following five children: Nellie, a member of the class of 1920 of the Middletown high school; Dennis B., jr., a junior of the high school; Agnes Alvira, Alberta and Delta, all in the grade schools.

William G. Laughlin. Ever since its incorporation, Butler county has been noted for its phenomenal development, due not only to the fertility of its land, but to the industry and public spirit of its citizens as well. Particularly has this rapid advancement been noted during the past several decades, during which it has taken great strides and assumed a place among the leading counties of the Miami valley. One who has shared in this work of general advancement is William G. Laughlin, who owns and operates a productive farm of eighty acres lying in section 18, Milford township. Mr. Laughlin

was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, February 15, 1864, a son of David and Mary (Stewart) Laughlin. His parents, natives of Ireland, emigrated to the United States as young people and met and were married at Cincinnati. Some years afterward they removed to a farm near Mechanicsburg, Ohio, where the father carried on operations until his retirement. This highly respected old citizen is a veteran of the Civil war, having served in the Union army, and been with General Sherman on his famous March to the Sea, and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his worthy wife, who died in July, 1873, were the parents of four children, of whom only William G. survives. William G. Laughlin had but scanty opportunity to attend school as a lad, for at the time of his mother's death, when he was only nine and one-half years of age, he went to live with his grandfather Stewart and his educational training was somewhat neglected. However, he made the most of his opportunities and today is a man well informed upon all essential matters. At the age of nineteen years he left his grandfather's home and went to Osage, Kans., where he remained for several years engaged in farming, then coming to Butler county, where he purchased his present farm. He has made all the improvements on this property and is engaged successfully in general farming. He has not confined his interest to his own personal affairs, for he has been found ever ready to lend his aid to whatever promised to work out for the ultimate good of the community, and by his own example has done much to advance and improve the standard of farming in his neighborhood. He is independent in his political affiliation and has never been a seeker after personal preferment. He and the members of his family belong to the United Presbyterian church at Oxford. Mr. Laughlin was married in 1905 to Anna Luella Finlay, of Milford township, a daughter of John and Mary J. (Todd) Finlay, of County Downs, Ireland. After coming to the United States Mr. and Mrs. Finlay settled in Milford township, Butler county, where the father followed farming until his death in 1905, his widow surviving until 1914 and passing away in the faith of the Presbyterian church. They had eight children: Anna Luella, who became Mrs. Laughlin; Robert, of Collinsville, Ohio, who married Lucinda Harden; Edward H., a farmer of Milford township, who married Nora Blount; Alberta, a teacher in Milford township; Charles, a farmer in the same township; John and Margaret, who are single and residents of Milford township; and one child who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin are the parents of two children: Mary Chastine, born November 24, 1906; and Howard Stewart, born July 5, 1908.

Frank J. Law. The farming and stockraising interests of Butler county have a capable, energetic and progressive representative in Frank J. Law, who has devoted his life to these vocations and has had the satisfactory experience of having made a success of his undertakings. At this time he is the owner of a productive property situated in the vicinity of Jacksonboro, where he is exhibiting the possession of abilities as a tiller of the soil and a raiser of high grade cattle, while as a citizen his community has no more helpful

member, he having filled a number of local offices to the entire satisfaction of his townspeople. Mr. Law was born at Trenton, Ohio, and is a son of John F. and Sarah (Trion) Law, being descended on the paternal side from an old famliy of New Jersey, and on the maternal side from an honored line of Pennsylvania. His paternal great-grandfather came to America from England as a British subject during the War of the Revolution, but, becoming convinced of the justice of the colonists' cause, deserted the British man-of-war and joined the forces of Gen. George Washington. After the war he settled in New Jersey, from whence his descendants gradually drifted toward the West. The maternal great-grandfather of Mr. Law was an Indian fighter during his day and founded the Trion family in Pennsylvania. Frank J. Law grew up as a farmer's son and received his educational training in the public schools. He has passed his life as an agriculturist, and his present farm, located near Jacksonboro, consists of 112 acres, all acquired through the medium of his own efforts. He carries on general farming and raises fine stock, and, as before noted, has made a success in both departments of his work. A Democrat in his political views, he has been markedly interested in local affairs, and the manner in which he has discharged his duties in a number of township positions has left no doubt as to his entire fitness for public service or as to his conscientious desire to be a helpful factor in his community's progress and development. October 13, 1903, Mr. Law married Margaret A., daughter of Benjamin F. and Ellen (Williams) Hartman, and to this union there was born a little daughter, Stella, who passed away when eight years and eight months old, in May, 1918. Mrs. Law's father, B. F. Hartman, was born in 1840 in Madison township and was educated in the schools of that vicinity. He was raised a farmer and married Ellen Williamson, by whom he had three daughters: Eliza Ann, who makes her home with Mrs. Law since the death of her parents, is single; Margaret A., now Mrs. Law, and Mary Elizabeth, now Mrs. Ross, who lives at W. Middletown, Ohio.

Roland Edward Layer, son of Peter and Catharine (Niswonger) Layer, was born in Bradford, Miami county, Ohio, July 12, 1869. His father was a farmer, but our subject preferred another vocation, and upon leaving school, secured employment in the rolling mill at Piqua, Ohio, and on leaving that place went to Alexandria, Ind., thence to Hammond, Ind. When the plant of the American Rolling Mill company was removed to Middletown, Ohio, he went there and remained fourteen months when he secured employment in the Sheet and Tube Mill at Youngstown, Ohio. The next move made was to Indiana Harbor, Ind., where he remained for three and one-half years, and then, August 9, 1905, he returned to Middletown, took a position as heater with the American Rolling Mill company, and has since continued in its service. Mr. Layer's father died in Miami county, November 15, 1909; his mother, January 29, 1912. Mr. Layer was married to Carrie Ellen Graham, daughter of Richard and Margaret (Mullen) Graham, on June 30, 1902. To this union five children were born: Edward Graham, February 3, 1904; James Orthal, March 6, 1906; Richard Roland, September 25, 1907; David

William, December 6, 1909; Eugene Riley, August 3, 1914. Mrs. Layer is a charming woman, of lovely character, a devoted mother, and a member of the Christian church. Mr. Layer is a close student and is possessed of more than ordinary intelligence. He is an omnivorous reader, has a large and well-selected library and is considered one of the best informed men in his community. He has been honored by appointment to a place on a committee on the high cost of living probe. Mr. Layer has purchased a comfortable home on Moore street, and contentment and happiness is the good fortune of the family. He is politically, a Socialist.

Orlando Rollin Ledwell, now deceased, was for many years one of the progressive farmers of the Miami valley, whose work as an agriculturist brought him favorable notice. He was born near Collinsville, Ohio, February 5, 1855, a son of Alfred and Hannah (Smith) Ledwell, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. Alfred Ledwell was brought to Ohio by his parents when he was still a child, and was reared in this state, where he attended school, his educational advantages being limited to those offered by his neighborhood. When he attained to manhood's estate, he took up farming, and followed that calling all his life. He and his wife had the following children: Andrew, Mary E., Sarah, Ellsworth, Alfred, Lizzie, Malinda and Orlando R. Orlando R. Ledwell was reared under the parental roof, and from childhood was taught to make himself useful on the farm. After his marriage in 1881, he left home, and he and his wife rented a farm near Collinsville, on which they lived until they bought the old Simon Williamson place of ninety-four acres, one-half mile south of Collinsville. At that time this farm had been so neglected that it was in a very rundown condition, but Mr. Ledwell was a thoroughly practical farmer and knew just how to go to work to reclaim it, and he succeeded so well that this property became one of the most valuable in his township. He not only made it very productive, but he erected new buildings, put up fences, installed modern machinery and appliances, and with these aids, carried on farming in a thoroughly scientific manner, his methods being adopted by many of his neighbors. Here he was very successfully engaged in farming until his death, which took place February 28, 1914. December 29, 1881, Mr. Ledwell was united in marriage with Miss Mary Alice Shaffer, born near Geneva, Ind., a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Yeakle) Shaffer, he born October 13, 1828, and she born November 2, 1849, both being natives of Ohio. Henry Shaffer was a son of Frederick and Elizabeth Shaffer, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio at a very early day, driving overland with a horse and wagon and locating near Somerville, being among the pioneers of that part of the state. They entered heavily timbered land from the government, and cleared, developed and improved it, and became very well-to-do people. In their family were ten children. Henry Shaffer located on his father's farm, and here he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of fifty-five years. His first wife died at the age of forty years, having borne him the following children: John; Elizabeth, who died in 1916, was Mrs. Conrad Filler; Margaret, who is Mrs. Emanuel

MR. AND MRS. A. D. LEFFERSON

GEORGE G. LEFFERSON

Harsh; Laura, who is Mrs. William Capp; Sarah Loretta, who is now deceased, was Mrs. Andrew Ledwell of Preble county, Ohio; Mrs. Orlando R. Ledwell; William, who is deceased; Frank, who is engaged in a butchering business at Seven Mile, Ohio; and Joseph. After the death of his first wife, Henry Shaffer was married (second) to Mary Montgomery. Mr. and Mrs. Ledwell became the parents of the following children: William F., who is engaged in farming in the vicinity of Collinsville, married Edith Trustes, and they have one daughter, Doretha A.; Margaret, who died October 28, 1913, was Mrs. Grover Lane of Somerville, Ohio; Fay W., who is owner and proprietor of a garage at Collinsville, Ohio, married Luella Webber, and they have two children, Orlando Rollin and Gladys Irene. Mr. Ledwell was a man of considerable prominence, serving as supervisor of his township for thirteen years, and always supported the principles of the Republican party. A man of sincere and earnest manner, he convinced others of his fidelity to duty, and inspired confidence and respect. Essentially a home man, he took great pride in his wife and children, and sought to add to their happiness in every way possible. Mrs. Ledwell is a member of the Presbyterian church of Collinsville, which received substantial support from her. After his demise, Mrs. Ledwell moved to Seven Mile, where she is now residing. She is a woman possessed of loveable characteristics, a good Christian, a kind neighbor, and one to whom confidences are naturally given, for her advice is oftentimes needed by those whose experience is less and who lack her excellent judgment. She has been spared to see her family grow up about her and she takes a deep and natural pride in her children and grandchildren.

Arthur D. Lefferson. Of the men who in the past have long lent dignity and progressiveness to the business of agriculture in Butler county, none is held in higher esteem than Arthur D. Lefferson, who for forty-two years was engaged in farming in the Middletown community, but who is now retired from active pursuits. Mr. Lefferson is a member of one of the best known agricultural families of Butler county, and was born on Lebanon road, in Lemon township, March 28, 1847, a son of Garrett and Rachael (Clayton) Lefferson. The paternal great-grandparents of Mr. Lefferson, Arthur O. and Sarah (Schenck) Lefferson, were the parents of the following children: Margaret, Eleanor, Benjamin, Jane, Mary, Arthur, Ann, Garrett and Stafford. Arthur Lefferson, of these children, was born in New Jersey, where he married Eliza Barcolo, and in 1810 came to Ohio and secured a large tract of land in Lemon township, Butler county, on which he passed the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits, dying in 1870. He and his wife had the following children: Garrett, Tobias, Benjamin, Elizabeth, Sarah Ann and Rebecca. Garrett Lefferson, father of Arthur D., was born on a farm in section 8, Lemon township, January 21, 1814, and received an ordinary education in the public schools while growing to manhood in the midst of agricultural surroundings. When still a young man he settled on a farm in Lemon township, and this he cleared and developed into a valuable property, so that when he died at the ad-

vanced age of nearly ninety years, he was one of the well-to-do and influential men of his community. He was a Democrat and for many years served as a member of the board of school directors, and was a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, at Blue Ball, as was also his worthy wife. He was married first to Rachael Clayton, who died at the age of forty-six years; his second wife was Sarah Randolph, and his third marriage was to Amanda J. Hart. His children, all born to his first wife, were: Eliza B., who died single; Arthur D.; William B., a retired farmer of Middletown, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work; Thomas C., deceased, who married Ann E. Young; Hannah J. and Sarah M., who are deceased; John, a resident of Indiana; Tobias S., deceased; one who died in infancy; and Alice Ann, the widow of William Bailey, of Middletown. Arthur D. Lefferson was educated in the home schools and reared on his father's farm, dividing his time between his studies and the assisting of his father and brothers. He was married January 12, 1871, to Miss Sarah E. Holmes, who was born May 29, 1847, in Franklin township, Warren county, Ohio, a daughter of George and Nancy (McClellan) Holmes, and a granddaughter of John Holmes, who emigrated from Ireland and became an early settler of Warren county, where he was engaged in farming until his death in 1850. George Holmes was born on Dix Creek, in Warren county, and followed in his father's footsteps as to occupations, being a farmer throughout life. He was a generous man, and, being of a deeply religious nature, many of his benefactions took the form of contributions to churches, including the donation of the site for the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, in 1854. He was active in the work of that church, as he was also in the United Presbyterian church at Monroe, later. He and his wife were the parents of five children: William, deceased, who married Eliza Meeker; Mary Jane, who died young; John, who also died as a youth; Sarah E., who became Mrs. Lefferson; and Martha Evelyn, who died young. After the death of his first wife, in 1855, Mr. Holmes married Hannah Hill, and they had one son, George A., who died in 1917. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lefferson rented land near his old home for two years, then rented land near Blue Ball, for a like period, and then bought a farm two miles east of Middletown, upon which they made all the improvements. During the forty-two years that they resided on this property they made it one of the most valuable and attractive in their part of the county, and Mr. Lefferson won very gratifying success as a general farmer and breeder of mixed stock. After this long period of agricultural labor, Mr. and Mrs. Lefferson felt that they had earned a deserved rest, and accordingly disposed of their property and moved to their present fine home, at No. 1039 Linden avenue, Middletown, where they have resided, surrounded by all comforts, since 1916. As a friend of education, Mr. Lefferson served as a member of the board of school directors for several years. He is a Democrat, and, with Mrs. Lefferson, belongs to the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, of which he was a trustee for several years. The great sorrow of Mr. and Mrs. Lefferson's lives occurred November 27, 1906, when they lost their only son,

W. B. LEFFERSON AND FAMILY

George Garrett Lefferson, in death. He was born May 19, 1880, on the old home place in Lemon township, and educated at the Columbia school, and graduated from the Middletown High school, in addition to which he took a course in a Cincinnati commercial school. He did not care for farming as a vocation, having a preference for business and financial matters, and entered the Merchants National bank at Middletown, where, through industry, fidelity and a display of ability he advanced himself to the position of teller, in which capacity he was acting when called by death. He was a young man of much promise, and there were many in the city to share his parents' grief in their great loss.

William B. Lefferson. An impressive instance of the power of innate energy, self-reliance, indomitable resolution and incessant perseverance in moulding an unaided career, is manifest in the life of William B. Lefferson, who, making use of ordinary opportunities, became one of the prominent and influential farmers of Butler county. Mr. Lefferson, who was for many years a tiller of the soil in Lemon township, but who is now living in comfortable retirement at his home in Middletown, was born on his father's homestead place in Lemon township, October 4, 1842, a son of Garrett and Hannah (Clayton) Lefferson. His grandfather was Arthur Lefferson, a native of Pennsylvania, who left the refinements and comforts of a civilized community to seek his fortunes in a newly opened section, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of Butler county. His choice of locations here was a property in the vicinity of Middletown, and there, in addition to carrying on farming, he conducted a still house. He was a man of good business ability and sound integrity, merited the respect in which he was held by his fellow-citizens, and was accounted a helpful and public-spirited man in his community. He and his worthy wife were the parents of six children, as follows: Elizabeth, who married Thomas Wilson; Jacob, a dry goods merchant of Middletown, who married Sarah Leiby; Homer, who married Rebecca Peck and was an attorney at Middletown; Garrett, the father of William B.; Tobias, a farmer who lived near Middletown; and Benjamin, who lived first in Butler county, O., and later in Indiana. Garrett Lefferson was born at Poast Town, O., and received a common school education while growing to manhood on his father's farm. He chose agricultural work as his vocation when he came to decide upon a career, and was still a young man when he located on a farm in Lemon township. He was compelled to start at the bottom of the ladder, as he was without any great amount of capital, and the land upon which he settled was just as nature had left it, with a great deal of timber. He was a young man of industry and much determination, however, and soon had his land in a condition for planting crops, from which time forward his progress was rapid. Mr. Lefferson developed a valuable property and a comfortable home, accumulated a goodly share of the world's goods, and in the evening of life retired from active pursuits. Although he lived to be nearly ninety years of age, his memory was remarkable up to the last and he was able to relate many interesting experiences and occurrences of pioneer days in Butler county. He was a man

who held the respect of his fellow-citizens in marked degree, and for many years served efficiently as a member of the board of school directors. His political support was given to the Democratic party. His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Hannah Clayton, died at the age of forty-six years and he was married a second time to Mrs. Sarah Randolph, the widow of Benjamin Randolph, and a third time to Amanda Hart. His children, all by his first wife, were: Eliza, who died single; William B.; Thomas, a farmer, who married Ann Eliza Young, and resides on Park street, Middletown, and where Thomas died; Arthur, a retired farmer of Middletown, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work; and Alice, who married first Ben Randolph, and after his death, William Bailey, and is a resident of Middletown; and John M., who married Molly Denise, of Middletown, and who are now living at Liberty, Ind. The parents of these children were faithful members of the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball, O. William B. Lefferson attended the public schools of his native community and was reared on the home farm, where he remained until about the age of twenty-five years. He was married May 24, 1866, to Miss Martha Ann Piper, who was born at Blue Ball, Ohio, a daughter of Andrew and Eliza (Watson) Piper, of that community, the former of whom died there and the latter at Blue Ball at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lefferson. After his marriage, Mr. Lefferson located at Blue Ball, where he resided one year, but at the time of his re-entrance into agricultural affairs went to Madison township, where he followed farming for some years. When his father died, Mr. Lefferson bought the old home place of 125 acres in Lemon township, and following that for nearly a half a century he operated that property, only retiring in March, 1916, when he felt that his many years of faithful labor had entitled him to a well-earned rest. He at that time moved to Middletown, where he bought his present modern home at No. 1010 Crystal avenue, having since sold the farm. Mr. Lefferson has filled some township offices, and has always shown himself a good citizen with the welfare of the community at heart. His political support is given to the candidates and principles of the Democratic party, and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church at Blue Ball. A man of wide acquaintance, he has numerous friends throughout this section of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Lefferson are the parents of four children, as follows: Nettie, the widow of William Bailey, living with her father, has two children, Clayton and Martha; Jennie, the wife of Lewis Whitman, of Franklin, with three children, Bessie, Herbert and Florence; Earl C., a farmer in Lemon township, who married Virtue Sellers and has three children, Russell, Ruth and Mary; and Homer, a farmer of Madison township, who married Myrtle Mullendore.

Charles J. Lehne, district agent for Butler county and a part of Warren county, for the Union Central Life Insurance company, is favorably known to the citizens of Hamilton as a progressive and energetic business man and one who takes more than a passive interest in the welfare of his community. Through his native abilities he has established a recognized position for himself in insurance

circles, and since beginning his connection with his present company, in 1914, has made steady and consistent advancement. Mr. Lehne was born at Ross, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Louis and Louise (Lucke) Lehne, natives of Germany, who were married in that country and came to the United States in 1860. They first settled in the village of New London, now known as Shandon, and then made removal to Ross, which now bears the name of Venice. Mr. Lehne, a harness maker by trade, followed that vocation, and was not only a business man of ability and unquestioned integrity, but a man well versed in general matters and of extensive reading who was frequently called upon by his fellow-citizens among the early settlers for advice and counsel. A stalwart Republican, for sixteen years he served as postmaster of Venice, and his religious faith and that of his wife was of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of the following children: Mary; Louis, jr.; Wilhelmina, deceased; Carolyn; Amy; Louise; Charles J.; Martha; William; Adolph; and Clarence, deceased. The father was a charter member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Charles J. Lehne received his education in the public schools of Venice, following which he engaged in business as a harness maker, in association with his father. Later he took up work in an agricultural implement line, and while thus engaged, during the first administration of President McKinley, was appointed postmaster of Venice, a position which he retained and efficiently filled for about eight years. When he retired from that office he identified himself with the Willey Mill and Elevator company, but subsequently came to Hamilton, where he turned his attention to the buggy business with Clark & Lehne. It was while he was thus employed that he became interested in selling insurance as a side line, and this business grew to such proportions that in February, 1914, he severed his connections with the buggy business, in order to give his undivided time to the new venture. Later he was appointed district agent by the Union Central Life Insurance company, for all of Butler and part of Warren counties, and this position he still fills. He has five agents under his superintendency, and has built up the business of his company wonderfully during the period that he has been in charge at Hamilton. Mr. Lehne's home is made on the old Capt. A. J. Lewis farm of 250 acres, situated two miles south of Millville, where the residence is one of the landmarks of the county, being 109 years old. In 1905, Mr. Lehne married Ella Lewis, daughter of Capt. A. J. Lewis, who was a well-known figure during the earlier days of this region. Mr. Lehne has a number of business, social and civic connections and is justly regarded as one of his city's prominent and influential business men.

Nathan Leshner. A rising young man of business affairs of Hamilton, and now president of the Leshner Paper company, Nathan Leshner is one of those of foreign birth, but of American training, who have so truly absorbed the best spirit of the times and of the land of his adoption. He was born March 20, 1887, at Keiver Guberne, Mosnne, Russia, son of a distinguished and learned Jewish scholar and wine merchant, and at the age of twelve years started to

earn his own living by working for a wholesale grocer. Mr. Leshner came to the United States in July, 1906, and landed at New York City, where he remained only eight days, going first to Fall River, Mass., and later to Middletown, Ohio. He found the medium for the start of his American career in the business of buying and selling rags, first with a push cart, and, as his finances were bettered, later with his horse and wagon. Subsequently he located at Hamilton, where, through his untiring energy and native business ability, in less than a year he had accumulated $1000. He then went back to Europe with his brother Jacob, and while there was married to Rosa Strauss. Thus his progressive and promising career was advanced in a way most fitting to the true American citizen, who, whatever his many activities, is anchored to wife and home. In 1907 Mr. Leshner returned to the United States with Mrs. Leshner. During his trip he had exhausted his funds and reached Baltimore penniless. He and his young wife had to undergo numerous hardships before they were able to reach Middletown, where Mr. Leshner, who was well known, found employment and worked for a short time. Once more supplied with funds, he then came to Hamilton, and this has been his permanent home and the scene of his remarkable success. His progress was as rapid upon his second arrival as it had been before, and in 1916, he established the Leshner Paper company, incorporated for $50,000, with factory and offices on Central avenue and the Baltimore & Ohio railroad tracks and a branch office on Wood street. The latter was recently destroyed by fire, but the loss was covered by $10,000 insurance. An eastern office of the company is maintained at Holyoke, Mass. The company's officers are: Nathan Leshner, owner and president; H. C. Henn, secretary and treasurer; and William Riegers, superintendent. Mr. Leshner and his wife reside in their pleasant and attractive home at No. 385 N. C street, which Mr. Leshner purchased in 1917. He is a member of the Hamilton lodges of the Knights of Pythias and Elks, and has several civic and business connections.

Conrad John Lewing, one of the most enterprising, successful and progressive of the farmers of his part of Butler county, has been a resident of this locality for more than thirty years, during which time he has contributed to the general advancement of this locality while at the same time materially aiding his own prosperity. He comes of a line of farming ancestors, and was born amid agricultural surroundings in Boone county, Ky., April 27, 1874, but feels himself essentially a son of the Miami valley, as he has been a resident of Madison township since his twelfth year. His parents, Henry and Mary (Bentler) Lewing, were born in Germany and were both young people when they emigrated to the United States, their marriage taking place at Cincinnati, O., whence they went to Kenton county, Ky. Later they moved to Boone county, in the same state, and continued to be engaged in farming until 1887, in which year they took up their residence on a farm of 109 acres, in Madison township, Butler county. Mr. Lewing the elder, a man of much industry and many admirable traits of character, made numerous improvements on this farm, which he continued to operate until his retire-

CONRAD LEWING AND FAMILY

ment, early in the spring of 1905. He did not live long to enjoy the fruits of his years of hard labor, however, as his death occurred in May of the same year, he being then eighty-two years old. Mrs. Lewing had passed away on the farm in 1899, aged sixty-four years. They were faithful members of St. John's Catholic church of Middletown, O., and the parents of seven children, as follows: Elizabeth, who died in Kenton county, Ky.; John, a farmer and teaming contractor of Middletown; Bernhard, deceased; Conrad J.; May and Tina, twins, deceased; and Anthony, a farmer and teaming contractor of Middletown. Conrad J. Lewing attended the parochial schools of the Catholic church, thus gaining a good education, and remained under the parental roof until after attaining his majority. He had inherited his father's industry as well as his self-reliance and resource, and, after working for a time for others, at a monthly wage, decided to become his own employer, and accordingly secured a tract of 121 acres, this being a part of the old homestead in section 4, Madison township. About this time he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Smith, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Weekly) Smith, a farmer and thresher of Butler county, and to this union there have since been born four children, all of whom reside with their parents: Jacob Henry, John William, Ruth Catherine and Mary Elizabeth. Mr. Lewing, while a general farmer, devotes a large part of his attention to the breeding of full-blooded cattle, of which he has a fine herd on his farm, maintaining also a good grade of horses and hogs. He possesses in a notable degree all the qualities which enable a man to take the lead in whatever he undertakes —intelligence, resolute purpose, untiring energy and diligent application to the details of the work he has in hand. His efforts have been rewarded by very favorable results, and he has already attained a prominent standing among the successful men of his community. From early youth he has been a hard and steady worker, so that his success has been the result of his own efforts, and he may be classed among the self-made men of the locality. As a voter Mr. Lewing supports the principles of the Democratic party, but he is not himself an office seeker. He and Mrs. Lewing are members of St. John's Roman Catholic church, at Middletown, in which congregation they have numerous friends, as they have among their neighbors and acquaintances all through Madison township.

Roscoe C. Lewis was born in Hamilton county in 1872, son of George and Theresa (Deeme) Lewis. George Lewis was born in Paris, France, and his wife was born in Germany. They were married in this country and settled in Crosby township, Hamilton county, Ohio, and he became a farmer. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom five are now living: Elizabeth, married C. Fisher; Martin J., George, Henry, and Roscoe, subject of this sketch. Joseph Fisher, son of Eliza (Lewis) Fisher, served at the front with the U. S. Army in France. Roscoe Lewis received his education in the schools of Hamilton county, and at the end of his schooling, he turned his attention to the farm. In 1900, he was married to Bertha Dixon, daughter of Robert and Alice Dixon, of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio. Robert Dixon and wife had ten children, five

of whom are living: Ollie, married John Schwab; Bessie, Mrs. Bert Heilman; Robert, Burt, Hazel; Bertha, wife of our subject, died in December, 1917. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis took up their home on a fertile farm of 121 acres, located in Fairfield township. He built a fine new house and in many ways has added much to the value of the farm since his occupancy. Four children were born in this family: Paul, in the Ohio State university, who is making a specialty of chemistry and engineering; Adrian, Nellie M., Bessie M. Elmer and Raymond Schwab, sons of Mrs. Ollie (Dixon) Schwab, sister of the late Mrs. Lewis, served in the U. S. Army in France. Mr. Lewis is held in high regard by his fellow-citizens and neighbors. He was twice elected trustee of Fairfield township, and performed the duties of his office in a manner creditable to himself and most satisfactorily to the public. In all the calls of the Government for financial assistance during the war, he did his full share. Mr. Lewis is both a Mason and Odd Fellow, and his political affiliations are with the Democratic party.

Harry W. Lindner, a prosperous general farmer and representative citizen of Union township, where he owns 158 acres of fine land, belongs to a well-known and highly respected family of Butler county. He was born in Union township, Butler county, Ohio, March 15, 1880, son of John and Mary (Schollenberger) Lindner, both of whom were born in Germany. John Lindner was sixteen years old when he came to the United States and after a short season in the city of Cincinnati, he came to Butler county and lived here until his death in 1912. Until he was about twenty-eight years old he worked on different farms, then married and for twelve years afterward rented farm land, at the end of that period buying a farm of 107 acres in Union township. He was considered an excellent farmer and a good neighbor. Of his thirteen children the following are living: Maggie, Anna, Christina, Barbara, Elizabeth, Mary, George, Harry W., Edward, Clara and Fred. Harry W. Lindner attended the public schools in Union township and afterward assisted his father until he was twenty-seven years old, when he married and moved to Glendale, but two years later returned to Union township and settled on his present farm, 130 acres of which he has under cultivation. His agricultural operations are carried on according to modern methods and with first class machinery, making use of a Packard truck for general hauling. In 1908 he married Mrs. Ella (Fehleison) Hoffman, daughter of Edward Fehleison, who had three children, namely: Clarence, Edward and Wesley Hoffman. Mr. and Mrs. Lindner are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is a trustee. To some extent Mr. Lindner is interested in politics and is serving in his second term as trustee of Union township, elected on the Democratic ticket.

Leonard Lindner, deceased, was born in Germany, the son of Jacob and Ann Lindner. When twenty-four years of age he came to this country and settled in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio. He received his education in Germany, where he also engaged in the occupation of farming. He married Anna Schonberger, and to them were born four children, three of whom are living: Paul, in

Glendale, Ohio; Marie, Mrs. W. VanDyke, in New York; John, in Norwood, Ohio. He was married (second) to Elizabeth Eichler, daughter of John and Barbara Eichler, of Butler county. Following the marriage, Mr. Lindner and wife lived in Union township, and from this union became the parents of nine children, all of whom reached maturity, namely: Charles, deceased; Matthew, Vide, Leonard, Louis, Rudolph, Edith, Lena, Mrs. Robert Matson; and Joseph, who completed a course in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and also graduated from Miami university. Rudolph was born in Union township, January 11, 1887, and there received his early education and grew to manhood's estate. On August 22, 1917, he was married to Delilah Mehl, daughter of Samuel and Mathilda (Fischer) Mehl. Samuel Mehl and wife lived near Hamilton, Ohio, and had the following children: Nellie, Mrs. Louis Lindner; Delilah, Mrs. Rudolph Lindner; Eva and Oliver. Since their marriage, Rudolph Lindner and wife have lived on the homestead of 135 acres, in Fairfield township, which he farms for his mother and himself. They have two children, Malcolm and Cliford, both bright and interesting boys. Mr. Lindner did his full share in the various war activities, and his patriotic spirit was manifest on every occasion. He is a Lutheran, a member of Zion congregation, and his politics, Republican.

Charles R. Line. On the South Yankee road, not far from Middletown, is located the property of one of Butler county's prosperous, prominent and progressive agriculturists, Charles R. Line. Mr. Line is not only a lifelong resident of this county, but is a member of one of its oldest settled families, the history of which dates back in this region to the year 1797, when his great-grandfather, Benjamin Line, located as a pioneer from Pennsylvania. From that time to the present the members of this family have been devoted to the pursuits of agriculture and have contributed materially to the development of the county and the advancement of its interests. The grandfather of Mr. Line, Moses Line, was born in Butler county, and rounded out a long, successful and honorable career as a farmer, developing a valuable property and establishing himself firmly in the confidence of the people as a good citizen. Robert Line, son of Moses and father of Charles R. Line, was born, reared and educated in Fairfield township, Butler county, and there passed his entire life as a cultivator of the soil. He was industrious in his habits and progressive in his methods and as a result was able to acquire a competence and to rear his children in a comfortable home. He married Nancy Slipher, who was born in St. Clair township, and whose mother was a Wilson and a native of England. Charles R. Line was born November 8, 1870, in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, and received his education in the district schools. Subsequently he attended a commercial college at Hamilton, but in making his choice between a career in the marts of commerce and trade or the more quiet vocation of farming, decided upon the latter and accordingly returned to the home place. Mr. Line has conducted his operations in a methodical although progressive manner, for while he has been loath to depart from the customs which time has proven to be practical, still he has not failed to take advantage

of new discoveries and has kept fully abreast of his vocation. His property, located on the South Yankee road, is one which bears every evidence of prosperity, being under a high state of cultivation, and boasting substantial buildings and modern improvements of all kinds. While he has been, in the main, what is known as a general farmer, he has also given considerable attention to stock raising, and is accounted a good judge of stock and a skilled breeder of Holstein cattle and high grade Poland China hogs, which are his specialty and for which he secures top-notch prices. Mr. Line was united in marriage July 26, 1893, with Miss Nellie Babeck, daughter of Albert and Theresa (Kronmuller) Babeck, of Princeton, Ohio, and to this union there have come four children: Helen, born May 12, 1894; Leroy, born July 21, 1895; Murray, born February 1, 1897; and Ralph, born August 31, 1898. Mr. Line is a member of the local Grange and takes much interest in its meetings. He has also been prominent in local movements, having been a member of the school board for nine years, and is a staunch advocate of good roads. While he leans toward the Republican party as a voter, he is somewhat liberal in his views, and party lines do not necessarily decide for him the choice of a candidate.

James Dallas Linkins. Two occupations, farming and merchandising, have occupied the energies of James Dallas Linkins since his arrival in Butler county in 1872, and while he is now practically retired from active pursuits still takes an interest in the varied life of the community in which he has lived so long and in which he has formed so many agreeable and profitable associations and connections. Mr. Linkins was born March 9, 1845, at Upperville, Fauquier county, Va., a son of Benjamin Franklin and Mary E. (Enden) Linkins. Benjamin F. Linkins was born near Winchester, Ill., and there grew to young manhood, learned the trade of carpenter, and followed that vocation for several years. Subsequently he went to Virginia, where he was married, his wife being a Virginia girl, who died just previous to the outbreak of the Civil war. When that struggle came on Mr. Linkins, as a Southern sympathizer, enlisted in the army of the Confederacy, with which he fought until the close of hostilities. He then returned to his home, whence he went to Loudoun county, Virginia, and there followed his trade until his death, at the home of his son, James D., aged sixty-six years. He and his wife were the parents of eight children: Virginia, deceased; Mary E., of Middletown, the widow of George Guy; Richetta, the wife of Robert Hensley, of Middletown; Henry B., who was a resident of Virginia; James D.; John D., a merchant of Middletown; Frank, deceased, who was a resident of Washington, D. C.; and Stephen Sylvester. The education of James Dallas Linkins was interrupted by the Civil war, and, following his father's lead, he enlisted in the Confederate ranks when he was little more than a boy, fighting through the various campaigns with the Army of Northern Virginia. His service covered a period of three years and six months, to the close of the war, and he established an excellent record for bravery and fidelity to soldierly duty. Returning to his home he remained with his father until he was twenty-four years of age and

then went to Washington, D. C., where he secured employment in the shops of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, and in that city, in 1872, was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Dove, a Washington girl. Shortly after that event he came to Middletown, O., which continued to be his home until November 1, 1910. During that time he was variously occupied, principally as the proprietor of a successful meat business. In 1910 he purchased the John Van Dyke farm, section 24, Lemon township, a tract of 134 acres, on which he built a fine brick residence and installed many valuable and attractive improvements. He continued to carry on general farming with success until August, 1918, when he sold his land, although he still continued to make his home on the property until February, 1919, when he again moved to Middletown and located upon the property he now owns, 1059 E. Third street. Mr. Linkins started in life in a small way, and the success which attended his efforts came to him unaided, principally through his great industry and splendid business ability. He has always been a Democrat, but has not sought preferment at the hands of his party. In all movements pertaining to the public welfare and the development of the industrial, educational and moral interests of Butler county, he has taken a leading part and is credited with being one of the useful members of his community. His fraternal connection is with Middletown Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M. and he has been an interested fraternalist. Mr. and Mrs. Linkins are the parents of five children, as follows: John Stephen, a butcher at Middletown, who married Mary T. Lemkuhl; Mary Etta, the wife of Robert Benner, of Middletown; Benjamin F., formerly a butcher, but now living with his parents; Jennie, the wife of Jacob Augsperger, of Middletown; and Helen Mable, residing with her parents.

William J. Lintner, a stable representative of the honorable vocation of farming, is the owner of a well-cultivated and productive property located in Union township, Butler county. He was born in the township in which he now resides, January 21, 1865, a son of Lorenz and Barbara Lintner, natives of Germany. The parents were married in their native country and in 1849 emigrated to the United States, first locating at Cincinnati, Ohio, and subsequently moving to Butler county. For a short time they lived in Ross township, then moved to St. Clair township, and in 1865 came to Union township, where they rounded out long and honorable careers on their 140-acre farm. They were people who well merited the respect and esteem in which they were universally held. Of their seven children, three now survive: Anna, Mary and William J. William J. Lintner received the education ordinarily granted farmers' sons of his day and locality, that of the rural public schools, and when he had completed his studies associated himself with his father in farming activities. At the time of his father's death he assumed management of the home place, which he farmed alone for four years, and then, with his brother, John Paul Lintner, bought the old home place and farmed it until 1909. In that year the partnership was dissolved and William J. Lintner began renting, being so engaged for three years on the Anderson farm in Hamilton county. In 1912 he moved to the property which he now owns in Union

township, not far from Sharonville, and here he has developed a handsome property, on which he has made numerous modern improvements. This land includes eighty-three acres of fertile soil, on which Mr. Lintner carries on general farming and stock raising in a scientific and practical manner. In politics he votes the Republican ticket, while his religious faith and that of Mrs. Lintner is of the Presbyterian church. May 24, 1909, Mr. Lintner was united in marriage with Mary Barbara, daughter of Paul and Margaret (Kreutzer) Schoenberger, the former a native of Cincinnati and the latter of Aurora, Ind. During the active years of his life, Mr. Schoenberger was a railroad man, and served as an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad for over a half a century without having a serious wreck. He is now retired from active pursuits and receives a regular pension from the company which he served so faithfully and well. He is also a veteran of the Civil war, in which he served on the commisary wagons. Mr. and Mrs. Schoenberger had seven children: Mary Barbara, Anna, Lillian, Alma, Harry, George and Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Lintner have no children.

Frank G. Litsch, real estate operator and auctioneer of Middletown, secured much of his experience in his present vocations and a great deal of information thereof, during the time that he was engaged in newspaper work, and today he is accounted one of the best judges of real estate values in the city and his particular gifts have made him a success in the peculiar vocation of auctioneering. Mr. Litsch was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, December 8, 1868, a son of Francis X. and Walburga (Berger) Litsch, early settlers of Cincinnati, where Francis X. Litsch was a truck gardener and farmer. There were twelve children in the family, of whom all died in infancy except: Benjamin X., employed by the St. Louis Roofing company, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. E. Wilz, a widow, who carries on farming and is the mother of six children; and Frank G. Frank G. Litsch was educated in the public schools of Cincinnati, in which city he was reared, but when he entered upon his career it was at Wyoming, Ohio, where he was engaged in business for seven years. He then moved to Xenia, this state, where he acted as agent for the Cincinnati Enquirer for two years, this being followed by a like service for the same publication at Springfield. On first coming to Middletown he continued to follow the same line of work, but by this time had decided upon a change in his labors, and eventually embarked in the auctioneering business, this being followed by his entrance upon the realty field. In both of these business endeavors he has been remarkably successful, and his career has been one of constantly increasing success. Mr. Litsch has purchased a splendid home, at No. 326 Tytus avenue, which he has remodeled, and here he has his place of business. Mr. Litsch is a Democrat in his political views. He is a charter member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Middletown, in which body he held office for seven years, and has been twice elected president of the Catholic Knights of Ohio. It has been largely through his untiring efforts that Calvary cemetery, of which he is a trustee, has been made one of the most beautiful in the state. During the past ten years Mr. Litsch has been a member of

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the board of trustees of St. John's Catholic church, and has taken an active and helpful part in religious work. One of his nephews is a Franciscan missionary, doing Indian mission work at St. Michaels, Ariz., and one of his nieces is Sister Virgila, a Franciscan nun, teaching a parochial school class at Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Litsch has also been very active in the work of the Red Cross, and in other ways has shown himself a public-spirited and constructive citizen. June 15, 1892, Mr. Litsch married Louise H. Wilker, of Versailles, Ind., and they have been the parents of ten children: Frank; Harry, who is deceased; Oliver; Helen; Marie and Louise, who entered college in the fall of 1919; Florence, Henrietta, Clarence and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Litsch are firm believers in the value of education and of sound home training. The children have all attended St. John's parochial school, and each daughter is to receive three year's musical education, but it is required of the daughters that they remain at home for two years after graduating in order that they may become accomplished housekeepers.

Rev. Samuel Austin Livingston, pastor of the United Presbyterian church of Monroe, O., is one of the earnest and sincere clergymen of Butler county, whose efforts are directed toward the development of the inner life of the soul. He was born in Allegheny county, Pa., June 7, 1861, a son of William R. and Mary (McGowan) Livingston, both natives of Allegheny county, William R. Livingston followed farming and threshing as occupations in his early life and later moving from the farm to McKeesport, Pa., where he died in 1899, at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Livingston died in January, 1874, aged forty-four years, and Mr. Livingston was later married (second) to Amanda Beam, also born in Allegheny county, Pa. In his political views, William R. Livingston was a strong Democrat. During his mature years he was a consistent member of the United Presbyterian church. His only child was Rev. Mr. Livingston. Samuel Austin Livingston was reared very carefully, and sent to the home schools, and later to a select school. The atmosphere of his home was decidedly religious, so it was but natural that the lad's mind should turn towards the ministry, and with the idea of preparing himself for that sacred calling, he took a course at McKeesport academy. In April of 1881 he entered the Washington and Jefferson college at Washington, Pa., from which he was graduated after a three years' course, in June, 1884. He then entered the Allegheny seminary of the United Presbyterian church, now known as the Pittsburg seminary, from which he was graduated in 1887. During April, 1886, he had located at Monroe, O., and following the securing of his degree, Mr. Livingston returned to Monroe to take charge of the United Presbyterian church in that town. This church was organized in 1802 as the Mount Pleasant Associate Reformed Presbyterian church. The church had run down, the membership being but thirty-seven, and services were held in a little church edifice of one room. With the enthusiasm of youth, combined with natural organization capabilities, Mr. Livingston began to reorganize, and today has an active membership of 125. The church building has been thoroughly remodeled, and a

dining room and kitchen for social purposes been added. The purchase of new pews and a furnace has added to the comfort and appearance of the interior, and other improvements are under consideration. Better than these outward signs, however, are the spirit of co-operation and helpfulness displayed by the members, which have been developed through the inspiring example of Mr. Livingston. For many years Mr. Livingston has been superintendent of missions for the First Presbytery of Ohio, and his labors in this connection have not been light. There are few men who stand higher in public esteem in Butler county than Mr. Livingston, while with his congregation his popularity is deservedly strong and his influence widespread.

T. C. Lloyd. No man within the city of Oxford has contributed more to the making of his surroundings than T. C. Lloyd. Turn where you will, large buildings and small, beautiful residences and modest homes, banks and industrial concerns, structures for the housing of public utilities, these and more which contribute to the architectural ensemble of a flourishing town, have fallen into his hands and have remained under his watchful supervision until completed. No greater tribute could be paid to the skill, business sagacity and reliability of this veteran contractor than to note that after thirty-five years of operation he still retains in the fullest degree the confidence of the public. Mr. Lloyd was born at Danville, Pa., in 1847, a son of Thomas and Margaret (Clark) Lloyd. His father, who was reared in Pennsylvania, was a carpenter and millwright by trade, and in 1851 moved to Camden, where he spent the rest of his life in working at his vocation and where both he and his wife passed away. They were the parents of five children, of whom but two survive: Kate, who is the widow of the late Dr. H. L. Davis, who was for many years a prominent practising physician of Chicago, where Mrs. Davis now lives; and T. C., of this notice. T. C. Lloyd was educated in the public schools of Camden and learned the carpenter's trade under his father. He remained in that city until February, 1884, in which year he came to Oxford, where one of his first acts was the purchase of the old Oxford public school, which he rebuilt into a planing mill. Later he built the present high school, and from that time to the present has been one of the most active factors in the upbuilding of the city, having erected various structures, including a number of educational edifices both at Oxford and at Camden. His business standing is of the best and he retains the full confidence of his associates. He is a well-informed and broadminded man, and invests his business with a progressive spirit and the community with an extent of practical usefulness which it is difficult to correctly estimate. He has a wide acquaintance, and is a man who makes and keeps friends. Mr. Lloyd married Flora Korner, of Somerville, Ohio, daughter of George Korner, and to this union there have been born six children: Alpha, a graduate of Miami university, and wife of O. H. Hayes, of Chicago, with one son,—Lloyd; Clark a graduate of Oxford High school, in business with his father, who married Catherine Schuster; Louis, also in business with his father, who married

Rose Keegan and has two sons,—Thomas and John; Bruce Edward, educated at Oxford High school, Miami university and Armour institute of Chicago, was employed at Dayton eight years and at Middletown two years, and now in business with his father, who married Myrtie Harsh, of Sunbury, Pa., and has two sons,—Emerson and Dale; Lillian, the wife of William Billings, of St. Paul, Minn.; and Flora, a graduate of Oxford High school and Oxford college, now the wife of Bert Kelly, who travels for the Metal Products company of Cleveland. Mr. Lloyd is a staunch Democrat, but has never aspired to office. He belongs to the Masonic lodge at Oxford, and with his family holds membership in the Presbyterian church.

William C. Lockard. The career of William C. Lockard is an expression of practical activity and self-made manhood. Having lost his father at an early age, he was practically thrown upon his own resources when still a lad, and whatever success he has made of life is due entirely to his own industry and perseverance. Mr. Lockard was born at Delphos, Allen county, Ohio, February 12, 1879, and is a son of James and Zelphah (Warfard) Lockard. His father died when he was but eleven years of age, leaving the widowed mother with the responsibility of his support as well as that of his brother James Robert, who is now a resident of Covington, Ky., and his sister, Florence, who is now Mrs. Charles Sigmon, of Middletown. Mrs. Lockard still survives as a resident of Piqua, Ohio. The educational training of William Lockard was naturally somewhat limited in character, but he made the most of his opportunities and when ready to begin his career as a self-supporting workman did so with a fairly good practical knowledge of material things. Since then through observation and reading he has made himself well informed and has a good self-gained education. The rolling mills of his home community offered a chance for his employment, and subsequently he was engaged in the same line in other communities, including Piqua, from which city he came several years ago to Middletown. Here he has since been employed in the plant of the American Rolling mill as a heater, and has the confidence of his employers and the respect and friendship of his fellow-workmen. He is a Republican in politics, although he takes only a good citizen's interest in public affairs, and is fraternally affiliated with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias orders. With his family, he belongs to the United Brethren church, and they reside in a comfortable and attractive home at 1116 Yankee road, built several years ago by Mr. Lockard. Mr. Lockard married Mary, daughter of George and Esther (Early) Weisel, residents of Middletown, and to this union there has come one son: Floyd William, who was born August 23, 1903, and is now attending the graded schools of Middletown.

John Lodder. To the lover of nature no occupation known to man furnishes more interesting possibilities than the florist business. Recent developments along this line have been as wonderful as they were formerly unexpected and unbelievable. Yet even to the man who labors faithfully to maintain standards already established and

who has no time to explore in luring paths of promise, there is always that satisfaction in accomplishment possible only when one works in collaboration with the elements of creation. Hamilton has had its share of earnest, painstaking florists, men who delighted in their labor and contributed liberally to the well being of the community. Few, however, had a longer or more prosperous career than did the late John Lodder, one of the best known and most highly respected men in his line in Butler county, whose sons are still perpetuating the business under the style of John Lodder & Sons, florists. John Lodder was born at Arnold, Germany, September 16, 1832, a son of Henry Lodder, and received a common school education in his native land, where he served three years in the army. He came to the United States as a young man and located first at Buffalo, N. Y., where he was early handicapped by his lack of knowledge of the English language, an obstacle which he overcame by self-teaching. Later he was joined by his sister, Mena, at Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed as a hostler for Senator William Payne, and while residing there he and his sister were the first to skate on Lake Erie. Going from Cleveland to Cincinnati, Mr. Lodder at one time in the floral business, engaged in the queensware business until 1863, and in 1866, with his brother, Rudolph, who is now engaged in the truck business at a point in Missouri, came to Hamilton and secured land from Owen & Beckett, a tract of twelve acres, for which they paid $500. It was upon this tract that there was started the present business of John Lodder & Sons, and this grew apace until Mr. Lodder's name became associated with all that was best in the floral business, a business in which the Lodders have been engaged for three generations. He continued to be connected with this line of effort until his death in 1910, when he was seventy-eight years of age, his wife passing away when sixty-two years old. They were faithful members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church and were active in religious work and movements and highly esteemed members of their community. John Lodder married at Hamilton Eliza Duettman, who was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, of German parentage, her parents locating at Cincinnati after an ocean voyage of six months. Mr. and Mrs. Lodder became the parents of six children: William C.; Henry C., born May, 1866, with John Lodder & Sons, married Mary Ann Budderick; Fred J., born in 1868, married Pauline Heintz, of Gardner Hyde Park, Ohio, and has a son, Andrew; Rudolph B., born in 1870, with John Lodder & Sons, married Catherine Eichhold, and has two children,—John, jr., and Elizabeth; and Mary, also connected with the business, and unmarried. William C. Lodder was educated in the parochial schools of Hamilton and from youth has been identified with the firm of John Lodder & Sons, in the success of which he has been a most important factor, giving it the benefit of his knowledge, acquired ability and great industry. The company was started in a small way, but has grown to large proportions and the original structure has been added to from time to time until it is now a large modern plant. The concern handles a great many cut flowers and potted plants, and does an

GREENHOUSE OF W. C. LODDER—HAMILTON

extensive truck business, and ships its goods all over the country. William C. Lodder has traveled extensively, having made four trips to California and also having visited various other large cities, and is a man well posted upon important matters. Like the other members of the family he is a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church at Hamilton.

The Long Family. More than one half century ago an industry was started in Hamilton by John M. Long, and the family of Long has been represented in this industry, during the successive generations, ever since. John M. Long was born in Germany, October 14, 1825. His father, J. M. W. Long, was a miller in Germany. His mother, who was Mary Ann Mohr before marriage, was also a native of Germany, having been born in the village of Fulda in that country. In 1836 the Long family emigrated to America, locating in Richmond, Va., later coming to Cincinnati, Ohio. Here, John M. Long, ambitious to succeed, attended night school while employed as a machinist apprentice. He acquired the rudiments of a business education at this time and also thoroughly mastered the machinist trade, both of which were important factors in his later life. In 1854, he came to Hamilton, taking employment with the Owens, Lane & Dyer company. In 1855, he, with Peter Black who conducted a blacksmith shop on Water street and Robert Alstatter, a file cutter by trade, started in business as the Long, Black & Alstatter Co. They began this business in a small way, the capital being only a few hundred dollars. Their first venture was the manufacturing and marketing of sickles and other small devices for farm use, mostly wrought by hand. In 1857 they began the making of mowing and reaping machines, made entirely of iron. They were known as the "Iron Harvesters" and were the first iron reapers made in this country. In 1858 sixty-five machines had been disposed of and they were soon in great demand. Subsequently they began the manufacturing of punching and shearing machines for their own use, which has earned them their present great reputation, and this latter line has made this firm known throughout the manufacturing world. By 1859, this concern had sold three hundred harvesters, and during that year alone sold more than fifteen thousand sickles. Step by step the concern grew, adding other lines, including corn drills and feed cutters, in the meantime expanding the punching machine business and its other established lines. In 1871, Mr. Black retired and the firm now moved to newer and larger quarters at Fourth and High streets, and about this time began the manufacture of hand plows, sulky plows and cultivators. In 1874 Chas. E. McBeth and Hermann Snider acquired an interest in the firm and soon after the concern was incorporated as The Long & Alstatter Co. In 1881 the concern sold the sickle department of their business to other interests, this department at that time ranking as the second largest producers of sickles in the world. Mr. Alstatter retired from active business in 1890. On June 29, 1901, John M. Long died and was succeeded by his sons, J. M. William Long and Jos. H. Long, who had been associated with their father in the business for many years. They,

however, did not live to see many years of active management, for they too passed away in January, 1905, and January, 1909. During their incumbency they did much to give the company its present substantial position in the industrial world.

Frank Pierce Long, the present vice-president of the above concern, was born in Hamilton, the son of J. M. W. Long and wife Eliza (Conover) Long, the former of whom was born in Cincinnati and the latter in Butler county. The other children of this union were D. Paul, Cora and Marie. Marie married John Andrews of the law firm of Andrews & Andrews, D. Paul is general superintendent of the plant and Cora is single and resides in Hamilton. Mrs. J. M. W. Long died in April, 1915, her husband having passed away in 1905. Frank Pierce Long was educated in the public schools of Hamilton and also studied at the Cincinnati Technical schools and supplemented this with one year at Purdue university. After completing his education, he entered The Long & Alstatter Co. as a draftsman and served throughout the plant in various capacities, familiarizing himself with every detail of the business. He later became vice-president and is at the active head of the business.

D. Paul Long, the general superintendent, became interested in the business early in life and is the directing head of the actual manufacturing of the company's products. He was married to Viola Simcox and to this union have been born two children, Louis Pierce and Elizabeth. During the recent war, the resources of this concern were taxed to the utmost. The punching and shearing machines made by The Long & Alstatter Co. have long been recognized as second to none. Shipyards, railroads and other industries engaged in war work required Long & Alstatter machines and this concern, true to their tradition, made good, and delivered 100 per cent. Steel cars, steel ships, bridges and countless other sources demanded punching and shearing machines. No other concern in Hamilton and few concerns in the United States played a more important role in this connection that did The Long & Alstatter Co. The present management of the company has gradually expanded the physical property as well as all other avenues of the business. The old woodworking plant of the Bentel-Morgedant company was acquired, also the old MacNeale-Urban Safe company, which is now used for the farm implement section of the business. The present officers of the company are William N. Rumely, president; Frank Pierce Long, vice-president; L. A. Pfau, secretary; R. E. Clark, treasurer; and D. P. Long, general superintendent. The Long family has been active in the growth and progress of Hamilton, taking a leading part in all worthy enterprises. The present representatives of this notable family, Frank Pierce and D. Paul, bid fair to add new laurels to the enduring fame achieved by their father and grandfather who were so notable in their lifetime, as manufacturers and citizens.

Hampton H. Long. Through a residence of more than three-quarters of a century in Butler county, Hampton H. Long has become known to his fellow-citizens as a man who can be trusted at all times and in all places, one who is honorable in business, loyal

MR. AND MRS. HAMPTON H. LONG

to his duties of citizenship and faithful in his friendships. Therefore, as well as for his sterling rectitude of character and for his long connection with the history of this part of the Miami valley, a review of the career of this retired citizen of Hamilton is deserving of presentation in this work. Mr. Long was born January 8, 1843, on a farm in Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of John G. Long. The latter was born in the same township in 1815, being a son of Armel Long, the first of the family to locate here. This sterling and sturdy old pioneer of Scotch descent, who died in 1827, married Hannah Grunden, who died December 26, 1865, at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. To this worthy agricultural couple, who assisted in the development of Butler county, there were born four children: John G.; George, formerly a farmer of Wayne township, Butler county, where he married Elizabeth Weaver; Noah, who was a farmer and brick mason of Madison township and died unmarried; and Louisa, who died when still a child at the homestead. John G. Long was given only a limited educational training in the district schools of Madison township, and resided at home, assisting with the work of the homestead up to the time of his marriage to Hannah C., a daughter of Abraham and Mary (Ball) Squires, who had come from New Jersey to Cincinnati in 1800 and later moved to Madison township in 1802, where Mr. Squires died on a farm near Miltonville. Mrs. Squires passed away at the home of her son-in-law. There were eleven children in the Squires family: Ezekiel, Ellis, David, Stephen, William, an infant, Johanna, Hannah C., Mary, Sarah and Phoebe, and Mr. and Mrs. Squires also reared a nephew, Ezekiel Fisher. In going to Cincinnati, Mr. and Mrs. Squires made the journey by flatboat, then journeyed overland to Middletown, and finally settled in Madison township. Mrs. Squires attained the advanced age of ninety-one years, passing away in October, 1878. Mrs. Squires' father, Ezekiel Ball, was one of the prominent men of his locality, having been the first postmaster at Middletown and one of the first county commissioners, being elected to office in 1804, and wielded an influence for higher citizenship and progress. After their marriage, John G. Long and his wife located in Madison township on his father's place, where they resided until 1879, Mr. Long passing away in that year and being laid to rest in the cemetery at Miltonville. He was a farmer throughout his life, a capable, industrious and honorable man, and one widely known and highly respected for his many sterling qualities. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican. In religion he worshiped with the United Brethren church, while Mrs. Long, who survived him until 1915 and was ninety-three years old at the time of her death, was of Presbyterian faith. They were the parents of four children: Armel, who died in infancy; Hampton H.; Josephine, born in 1845, who married Mr. P. H. Kumler and has a son, Paul, in Cincinnati; and George, who died at the age of nineteen years. Hampton H. Long was a pupil in the Trenton school, where he had as teacher Robert Dine, who had been one of the instructors of Mr. Long's parents, and completed his education at Miltonville. He was married in

Wayne township, October 14, 1868, to Maria, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Hurst) Snively, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Wayne township. Mr. Snively was born in 1803 and in 1819 came to Butler county with his parents, the family settling in Wayne township, where he was engaged in farming during the rest of his life. He was a Democrat in his political allegiance, and both he and his wife were faithful members of the United Brethren church at Miltonville, Mr. Snively dying in that faith in 1878, at the age of seventy-four years, and Mrs. Snively passing away in 1856, when forty-five years of age. Mr. Snively's second wife was a Mrs. Wells who bore the maiden name of Isabella Stanley. His seven children, all by his first marriage, were: Martin, who died at the age of twenty years; Jacob, a soldier of the Civil war and a member of the 83d O. V. I., met a soldier's death on the battlefield of Milliken's Bend, La., and his body was brought home and interred in the Miltonville cemetery; Samuel, formerly a farmer of Elwood, Ind., who married Mary Lambertsen; Leander, who died at the age of sixteen years; Isaac, who died at Camp Nelson, Ky., during the Civil war, as a member of the 22nd Regiment, O. V. I.; Susan, who married J. P. Cory, of Seven Mile, O., a review of whose career will be found elsewhere in this work; and Maria, now Mrs. Long. To Mr. and Mrs. Long there have been born four children: Harry, who died in infancy; Letha, who married Samuel Wilson of Seven Mile; Fannie, who resides at Dayton; and John G., who is engaged in agricultural operations on the old home place. John G. Long, jr., was educated in the home schools and the high school at Hamilton, and at the outbreak of the war between the United States and Spain enlisted in the Regular Army, becoming a member of Company F, 22nd Regiment, rising to the rank of commissary sergeant, serving three years, and upon his return in 1901 engaged in construction work at Hamilton, in which he was engaged until 1914. At that time he relieved his father of the burdens of the farm and has since made a decided success of his work. His first wife was Angie Stannard, of Independence, Ia., by whom he has one son, Hampton H., jr. The present Mrs. Long bore the maiden name of Lydia Doll, and is a native of Hamilton. They are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Long is a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine. With the exception of the period when he served in Company E, 167th Regiment, O. V. I., and in the 61st Regiment Ohio State Militia, during the Civil war, and in 1863 was called out with the militia to assist in quelling the Morgan raid which was rampant throughout Ohio, Hampton H. Long devoted himself uninterruptedly to farming on the homestead up to the time of his retirement, since when he has resided at No. 313 North Seventh street, Hamilton. After his marriage he located on the homestead, where he made all the improvements with the exception of the residence, which had been built by his father after he had bought fifty acres of land from the other heirs, this acreage subsequently being increased to 152. In turn, Hampton H. Long added to the value and size of the holdings of the farm, and now owns 280 acres

JOHN B. LONG AND FAMILY

in Madison and Wayne townships and twenty acres in St. Clair township. During the years of his residence in the country, he carried on general farming and stock raising on a large scale, and became known as one of his community's most skilled and thoroughly learned agriculturists. Other business interests have also attracted his attention and he has been a director in the Miami Valley National bank of Hamilton for many years. In politics he votes the Republican ticket. In 1866 he joined Jefferson Lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., and at this time is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, also a member of the Wetzel Compton Post of Hamilton, Ohio, No. 96. Formerly a member of the United Brethren church at Miltonville, and later of the Presbyterian church at Jacksonboro, he is now a member of and elder in the Westminster Presbyterian church at Hamilton. During the past ten years he has been an active member of the Butler County Agricultural society. The old Long homestead, noted throughout the countryside for the prominence given it by its location 969 feet above sea level, was the scene of a large and enthusiastic gathering, October 14, 1918, when Mr. and Mrs. Long celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. In addition to the members of their immediate family there were in attendance friends and acquaintances from all over the county, who came to congratulate the honored couple and to express their continued good wishes to two of Butler county's most highly respected residents. To Mr. Long belongs the honor of being the originator of the first Chautauqua in the Miami valley and the largest one at the present time in the state of Ohio.

John B. Long. The qualities of marked business capacity, ready adaptability to his calling, recognition of its many advantages and faith in his own power to make a success of his operations, placed John B. Long among the substantial and prominent farmers of Butler county. From the fields this Civil war veteran's industry brought forth ample means, permitting his retirement from active affairs and his consigning to younger hands the tasks that made up the sum of his existence for many years. He still has a tract of thirty-three acres, on which, more as a recreation than as an employment, he is engaged in raising garden stuff. Mr. Long was born at Poast Town, O., August 27, 1844, a son of John B. and Delilah Ann (McNeely) Long, the former of New York state and the latter of Ohio. Barnett Long, the grandfather of John B., was an early settler of Butler county, where he passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits, and where he and his wife were among the highly respected earlier residents. They had five children: George, Joe, John B., Betsy and Polly. Delilah Ann (McNeely) Long, was a daughter of John and Delilah McNeely, natives of Pennsylvania and early settlers of Butler county, where they passed their later years in farming in Madison township. They had four children: Polly, Jane, Delilah Ann and John. John B. Long, the elder, father of John B. of this review, was a child when he accompanied his parents to Ohio, and his youth was passed amid pioneer scenes and surroundings. He received his education in the

primitive district schools of his day, and adopted farming when he reached manhood, owning a good property near Poast Town, where he carried on operations to the time of his death at the age of seventy-two years. He was a Republican in politics, and he and Mrs. Long, who died at fifty-five years of age, were faithful members of the United Brethren church. They had a family of fourteen children, of whom seven grew to maturity: Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of John Finkbone; Mary Ann, who died single; William B.; deceased, who lived for many years at Poast Town, served in Company E, 350th Regiment, O. V. I., and met his death by drowning; Hattie, deceased, who was the wife of Hampton Alexander, also deceased; Eliza, deceased, who was the wife of James Patterson, deceased; John B.; and Ella, who made her home with her brother John B. until her death January 3, 1919. Their sister Eliza also lived on the old home place with them until her death, March 27, 1917. John B. Long the younger received a public school education, and resided on the home place, assisting his father and brothers in their agricultural operations until he entered the ranks of the Union army, May 14, 1864. He joined Company E, 167th Regiment, O. V. I., with which he served bravely and faithfully until receiving his honorable discharge, December 25, 1866, the principal part of his service being in West Virginia. On his return home, the young soldier settled down again to the pursuits of peace, and founded a household of his own by his marriage to Miss Malinda Huffman, who was born on the farm now occupied by the family, in Madison township, a daughter of Robert and Julia Huffman, the latter of Germantown, O., and the former of Pennsylvania. Mr. Huffman came to Ohio at the age of twelve years, and for a long period was engaged in farming in Madison township, where his death occurred, as did that of his wife. They were faithful members of the Lutheran church. Mrs. Long died June 3, 1908, having been the mother of three children: Julia, the widow of Frank Hosselman, a farmer of Butler county, who died in January, 1901, makes her home with her father and has three sons,—Homer, who married Bertha Yost and is a farmer of Lemon townhsip, and they have one son, Earl Eugene; Arthur, a farmer in Lemon township; and Harold a fireman on the railroad, living at West Middletown, who married Hattie Witzel and has a daughter, Ruth Louise, and son Harold, jr.; Maude, who married Harry Temple, a farmer of Warren county, and has one child,—Mary Lucile; and Garnett, who married Milton Myers of Middletown, and has two children,—Laura and Charles. Following the war Mr. Long made his home in Warren county for one year, and then located on his present property, in section 33, Madison township, where he carried on active and successful operations for many years, as a general farmer and truck raiser. While he is now retired from the more arduous labors of life, having reached his seventy-fifth year, he still maintains an interest in affairs agricultural, and raises garden stuff on a thirty-three acre patch, one of his specialties being the banana squash, which vegetable has become famed throughout the neighborhood for its delicacy and general whole-

someness. In his daily actions, Mr. Long evidences the splendid qualities of the pioneer stock from which he comes. He is a Republican voter, and he and his family are members of Union Chapel of the United Brethren church.

John W. Long, a retired farmer and highly respected resident of Madison township, has practically spent his life in Butler county, and is numbered among those here who have done much to raise the standards of living, and advance the interests of agriculture. He was born on the old Long homestead, in Madison township, July 31, 1847, a son of Samuel M. and Lydia Ann (Walters) Long, natives of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, respectively. Samuel M. Long was a son of Silas Long, and his wife who bore the maiden name of Marshall, and they were both natives of New York city, and very early settlers of Butler county. Lydia Ann Walters was a daughter of John S. Walters, who married Ann Schenck of New Jersey, and he was a silversmith by trade, making all kinds of silverware by hand, being a very expert workman, and a natural artist. Some of his productions, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. John W. Long are remarkably beautiful. Later in life he located at Middletown, O., and still later bought a farm in Madison township, on which he died. He and his wife had the following children: William Walters, who was a blacksmith, left Madison township for LeRoy, Ill.; John J., who was a blacksmith of Madison township; T. S., who remained on the Walters homestead; and Lydia, who became the mother of John W. Long. Silas Long, the paternal grandfather of John W. Long, secured wild land in Madison township, and developed it into one of the most valuable properties in this part of Butler county. The handsome brick residence he erected on his farm was the best in the neighborhood for many miles around, and excited the admiration of all who saw it. Silas Long was always engaged in farming, and both he and his wife were very much respected. Their children were as follows: Nelson, who became a farmer of Illinois; David, who also engaged in farming in Illinois; James, who was a farmer of Butler county, O.; Samuel M., who became the father of John W. Long; John L., who became a farmer of Madison township; Malinda, who married Nelson Long of Franklin, O.; Sarah Jane, who married Clinton Paullin of Madison township; and Huldah, who married David Schenck, went to Illinois to live. Samuel M. Long, the father of John W. Long, received only a common school education. But he made the most of his opportunities, and upon the limited amount of knowledge he received, he built up a superstructure that served him well in later life. Learning the blacksmithing trade, he followed it, and in time bought a farm, and conducted it. From the time he cast his first vote he was staunch in his support of the Democratic party, and his activity in its behalf was recognized by his election to the offices of county commissioner and township trustee. Both he and his most excellent wife were very active in the work of the Baptist church, of which they were devout members. He died at the age of sixty-four years, and his wife was about the same age when death claimed her. Their children were as follows: Philip Schuyler, who

is now deceased, was an educator, and served as county auditor; Adeline, who died in childhood; John W., whose name heads this review; William S., who is conducting the old Long homestead in Madison township; and Charles G., who lives at Los Angeles, Cal. John W. Long grew up under the careful supervision of his father, and was sent to the local schools. While still at home, he was married to Mary Ann Jacquart, March 19, 1879. She was a daughter of Peter Jacquart, born in France, and his wife Frederika Frebe, born in Germany. Both came to America in childhood, their parents locating at Trenton, O., where they became acquainted and were married. Peter Jacquart was a shoemaker by trade, and located at Astoria, O., after his marriage, and worked for a brother who was in the shoemaking business. In 1879, Peter Jacquart bought a farm of twenty-eight acres of land, now owned by John W. Long, and on it both he and his wife died, he passing away at the age of sixty-eight years, and she at the age of sixty-nine years, both having been consistent members of St. Paul's church of Middletown, O. The children of Peter Jacquart and his wife were as follows: Samuel, Henry, Peter, Mrs. Long, and John. Mr. and Mrs. Long had two children, namely: Peter Edward, who is a farmer, lives at home, married Mary Cooper, and they have two children,—Mayme and Ralph; and Mary Mayme, who died July 23, 1905, married Edward Michael, and had one son,—Walter. John W. Long has always been engaged in farming, adopting it as his life work in boyhood. Having acquired a knowledge of it first-hand, he has put to practical use the knowledge thus acquired, and in connection with his farming, conducted a threshing machine outfit for thirteen years. He and his wife have lived on their present farm since 1897, but for the past few years, Mr. Long has not taken an active part in the conduct of affairs, leaving the operation of the farm to his son, who is a very capable and experienced man. Like his father, Mr. Long has always been active in politics, espousing the principles of Democracy, but has not cared to run on the party ticket, preferring to exert his influence as a private citizen. Since he has had more leisure on account of his retirement from farm labor, Mr. Long has had time and opportunity to cultivate the various friendships he had formed during previous years, and he and his wife enjoy visiting and entertaining, their pleasant home oftentimes being the scene of social gatherings. Having always lived up to high principles, they have won the confidence and respect of their associates, and are regarded by all who know them as very fine people.

Samuel S. Long, one of the retired farmers of Madison township, was formerly actively identified with the agricultural interests of Butler county, and is held in the highest respect by all who have the honor of his acquaintance. He was born on the old Long homestead in Madison township, September 18, 1857, a son of John L. Long, who was also born in Madison township, and died here in 1898, aged sixty-seven years. John L. Long was a son of Silas Long, born in New York city, who after his marriage to a Miss Marshall, also of New York city, came to Butler county, O., and

was among the first to locate east of Middletown, in Lemon township, and here he secured wild land. He divided his time between developing his farm and conducting a blacksmith shop. In time this farm became one of the most valuable in the neighborhood, and on it Silas Long erected a commodious brick residence and made many other improvements. He and his wife were members of the old school Baptist church. He always believed in the principles enunciated by the Democratic party, and voted for its candidates. All over this part of Butler county, Silas Long was well and favorably known, and he is still remembered by some of the older inhabitants. The children born to him and his wife were as follows: Samuel, who was a farmer and county commissioner, lived in Madison township; Amy, who married Peter Baird; Nelson, who was an extensive farmer and stockman, moved to Illinois, and was killed in a runaway; Huldah, who married David Schenck, lived in Illinois; David, who was a farmer of Illinois; James, who was a farmer of Butler county, O.; John L., who became the father of Samuel S. Long; and a sister Sarah Jane, who married Clinton Paullin, of Tuscola, Ill. John L. Long attended a school held in the old, primitive log cabin of his period, upon the subscription plan, and made the most of his opportunities for acquiring an education, but they were very meager. Remaining at home with his father, after the latter's death, he bought out the other heirs to the homestead of 164 acres of land in Madison township, and carried on farming until his death. Not only was he widely known, but he was universally liked, and when he died, his death was felt to be a loss to his community. He was married to Susan Shartle, a daughter of Daniel Shartle, an orphan boy, bound out to strangers, and very badly treated, being denied proper clothing. The lad resented this abuse, and finally ran away, and made his way back on foot to Pennsylvania, where he had been born. Later in life he made three trips between Ohio and Pennsylvania, traveling on horseback. He was married to a Miss Lingle, and securing land in Madison township, Butler county, O., developed a fine property from it. Early in life he was engaged in cutting and hauling lumber, and was a hard worker, whether engaged in lumbering or farming, and was entirely self-made. He and his wife had the following children: John, who is a farmer and shoemaker of Madison township; Daniel, who died in 1918 at College Hill, O., was eighty-seven years old; Susan, who was Mrs. Long; William, who lived in Indiana; Elizabeth, who married David Marts, during her lifetime resided on the present farm of Samuel S. Long in Madison township; Harry, who lived in Butler county, O.; and Frank. John L. Long died on his own farm, Mrs. Long surviving him until 1913, and then passing away firm in the faith of the Reformed church, of which she was a consistent member. The political convictions of John L. Long, which were strong, made him an adherent of the Democratic party. He and his wife had the following children: Sarah E., who is the widow of Dr. Owsley of Madison township, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work; Samuel S., whose name heads this review; Ella M., who married D. M. Smith, a

farmer of Madison township; Ida, who is the widow of Edward Marts, lives on the old Long homestead; William, who died in childhood. Samuel S. Long grew up on the farm of his father, being taught by that excellent man not only to farm properly, but to so govern his life as to bring out the best in his character, and to give full justice to his associates. He attended the district schools, and also the local high school, and since then has added to his store of knowledge by reading and observation, being a very well informed man. In 1880, Mr. Long was united in marriage with Miss Ida Marts, born on the old Marts homestead in 1860, a daughter of David Marts, and his wife, whose maiden name was Snyder, both of whom are deceased, he passing away in 1902. They were both born in Madison township, Butler county, O. Mrs. Long died in June, 1907, having borne her husband the following children: Aletha, who married Lester Corson; Paul, who is a farmer, operates his father's farm, married Stella Griswold, and they have three children,—Mary Elizabeth, and Paul, jr, and Ida May; Raymond, who married Hazel Shwank, lives at Dayton, O., and they have one daughter, Hellen Jane; and William, who enlisted September 18, 1917, in the 83d Division, was made a corporal of his company, and landed in France, June 26, 1918, and was one of those to participate in the dress parade at Paris, July 4. 1918, and was later assigned to the duty of drilling recruits. Until 1904, Samuel S. Long lived on the Long homestead, when he moved to his present valuable farm of 169 acres of land, but has been retired from active participation in the work of conducting it for several years. He votes the Democratic ticket, and has been very active in township and county affairs all his mature years, and for ten years was trustee of Madison township, and for twenty years served on the school board. The Reformed church has in him a valued member and generous supporter. Few men stand any higher in Butler than Samuel S. Long, and he has won the confidence he inspires through upright living and honorable dealing.

Charles S. Longstreet, one of the retired farmers of Monroe, O., is still interested in several of the live enterprises of his community, and is a recognized factor in Butler county. He was born in Warren county, O., July 19, 1856, a son of George, and grandson of Aaron Longstreet, both natives of New Jersey. When his son George was a child, Aaron Longstreet came to Ohio, and settled in Warren county, where he secured 400 acres of land, and became a successful farmer and desirable citizen of his new home. He and his wife had the following children: Euphemia, Aaron, George, Ann, Rebecca, and one whose name is not recorded. George Longstreet received only those educational advantages afforded by the common schools, and he was reared on his father's home place, one and one-half miles east of Monroe, O. He was married to Harriet Keever of Maryland, whose family settled at an early day on Turtle Creek, Warren county, O., just east of Monroe, and they had the following children: Aaron, who was a physician, lived at Springfield, O., until his death at the age of sixty-four years; John, who was a farmer of the old homestead, died in 1911; Clara, who

married J. F. Gallagher of Warren county, O.; Charles S., whose name heads this review; George, who is a retired farmer of Monroe, O.; and two who died in childhood. Charles S. Longstreet attended the local schools, and spent all of his active life on the homestead, with the exception of three years. Until 1913, he was engaged in cultivating his ancestral acres, but then retired, and moved to Monroe, where he still resides. Mr. Longstreet was one of the organizers of the Butler County Canning company, which has the following officials: William M. Stewart, president; Arthur T. Smith, secretary; and William H. Compton, Freeman Smith and Charles S. Longstreet, stockholders. The National Bank of Monroe has Mr. Longstreet as one of its directors, and his name lends solidity to that institution. April 28, 1896, Mr. Longstreet was united in marriage with Pearl E. Robinson of Monroe, O., a daughter of Jerome and Mary J. (Kitchen) Robinson, of Warren county, O. After spending a number of years engaged in agricultural pursuits, Mr. Robinson died on his farm, and his wife survives him. She is a daughter of Peter and Mary (Williamson) Kitchen, farming people of Warren county, O., who died on their farm. Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen had the following children: John W., George, and Mary. The Kitchen family all belonged to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Robinson was a Republican. Fraternally he was a Knight of Pythias. He and his wife became the parents of two children, namely: Mrs. Longstreet; and Charles, who is a grocer of Monroe, O. Mrs. Longstreet's paternal grandfather was Mathew Robinson of Warren county, O., and he married Martha Kimball of Hamilton, O., and they became the parents of the following children: Henry, Jerome, who was the father of Mrs. Longstreet, Emma, Ella and Carrie. Mathew Robinson spent his life engaged in agricultural pursuits up to within a few years of his death, when he retired, moved to Monroe, and there passed away, aged seventy years. Mrs. Robinson also died at Monroe many years ago. Charles S. Longstreet has never aspired to assume the responsibilities of public office, but he conscientiously casts his vote for the candidates of the Democratic party. His fraternal affiliations are with the Odd Fellows, and he is prominent in the local lodge. Coming as he does of one of the pioneer families of the Miami valley, Mr. Longstreet naturally takes a deep and intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to this important section of the state. Big of brain and warm of heart, he has stamped his personality upon the affairs with which he has been connected, and Monroe owes much to his broad-visioned ideas and generous donations of effort and financial support. Upright and sincere in his advocacy of measures, Mr. Longstreet's advice is oftentimes sought, and usually acted upon for it is sound, and drawn from a wide experience, and varied knowledge of men and events.

Samuel W. Love, superintendent of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, at Hamilton, and who has been the incumbent of this post during the past ten years, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1866, a son of David and Mary (Scarlett) Love, and a nephew of Lieutenant Love, chief of detectives of Cincinnati. His parents,

natives of Ireland, were young married people when they emigrated to the United States and settled at Cincinnati, where David Love found employment as a city fireman. He met his death in the line of duty, being one of those to lose their lives while fighting the great bucket factory fire of some years ago, which is well remembered for its size, fierceness and number of casualties. He and his wife had two children: Samuel W. and Mary. The latter is the wife of George Frowe, of Cincinnati, where the aged mother also makes her home. Samuel W. Love received his education in the public schools of Cincinnati, but his advantages were not numerous, as the death of the father left the family in somewhat straitened financial circumstances and it was necessary that he go to work. He accordingly found a position with the Herman Manufacturing company, a concern with which he remained for thirteen years. During this time he was promoted from time to time, but finally felt that he was not making rapid enough progress and accordingly resigned and turned his attention to the field of life insurance. Securing a position as agent for the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, within the space of one short year he had won his way to the assistant superintendency at Cincinnati, and after capably discharging the duties of this office for some time was given the Hamilton agency as superintendent, this having been his post for the past ten years. The Hamilton agency also includes College Hill and Franklin, and Mr. Love now has fourteen solicitors under his charge. He has been very successful in his field and under his direction the company's business has assumed large proportions here. In 1904 Mr. Love married Elizabeth, daughter of Louis Popper, a retired citizen of Cincinnati, and to this union there have been born two children: David, deceased; and Jean, born in November, 1910. Fraternally, Mr. Love is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias and the Masons, and is a Shriner. He belongs to Trinity Episcopal church of Hamilton. During the campaign of selling Liberty Bonds and War Savings stamps, his allotment of bonds was $5,000 for each man in his district, which he exceeded, while he personally sold $114,000 worth of war savings stamps. He has always been active in movements which have contributed to the welfare of his community, and has thus been rightfully accredited with being a public-spirited and useful citizen.

Samuel Lowenstein was born at Zanesville, Ohio, December 17, 1859. His education was acquired at the country schools, and he was still but a lad when he was taken from his studies and put to work in the clothing establishment of an uncle, David Goodman, at Zanesville. When he had assimilated the rudiments of business, he was sent, a lad of thirteen years, to Cincinnati, with a stock of notions, and from this small start has come his success. His entire business career of twelve years at Cincinnati saw him constantly progressing. In Cincinnati he was married to Betty Zinsheimer, a Canadian by birth. Following their marriage they moved to Arlington, Ind. After five years in that city, he came to Hamilton, where he established himself at the corner of Third and

Ludlow streets, and remained until 1899. In the meantime, in 1896, the old building had been torn down and the present two-story establishment erected, and subsequently the building of the six-story rear addition in 1903. In 1899 Mr. Lowenstein embarked in the furniture trade, and he was at the high tide of his prosperity when, in the flood of 1913, he suffered a loss of $20,000. As soon as repairs could be made to building and stock, he resumed operations, and the Lowenstein Furniture company is one of the well known business houses of Hamilton. Mr. Lowenstein's present attractive home, at No. 447 S. Second street, was erected by him in 1897. As a fraternalist he belongs to the B. P. O. E., the Eagles and the I. O. O. F. He is a Democrat in politics. As a public-spirited citizen he is at the present time acting in the capacity of member of the Hamilton Board of Health. Mr. and Mrs. Lowenstein are the parents of three children: Harry, Joseph and Stella. Harry Lowenstein was born in 1889, at Hamilton, and received his education in the public schools. He joined his father in the furniture business and October, 1917, he enlisted in the United States Army as a private of the 322nd Field Artillery. By the time that organization was ready to go to France he was wearing the stripes of a sergeant, and once across the Atlantic entered an officers' training school, where he won a commission as second lieutenant. With that rank he saw some of the severe fighting during the last five weeks of the war, and after the armistice was in the army of occupation. He is a Mason and an Elk. Joseph Lowenstein was born at Hamilton in 1893, and after completing his education in the local schools also entered the Lowenstein Furniture business with his father and brother. In August, 1918, he became a member of the American fighting forces, enlisting in the Field Artillery stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky. Later he was transferred to Camp Knox, Ky., and at the time the armistice was signed had been selected as one of the candidates to enter the officers' training school at Camp Knox. He was mustered out of the service in January, 1919, and returned to Hamilton, where he resumed his labors as a member of the Lowenstein Furniture company. He is a Mason and a Shriner. Stella Lowenstein married David M. Silver, who is also associated with the Lowenstein Furniture company. He was born August 2, 1883, at Chicago, Ill., and after securing his education in the graded and high schools of that city enlisted in the United States Cavalry, in the Regular Army, and served three years. Upon his discharge he traveled for the Foss Packard Shoe company for nine years, out of Boston, and became acquainted with Miss Lowenstein at Hamilton. They were married December 4, 1912, and following the happy event Mr. Silver purchased an interest in the Lowenstein Furniture company. Mr. and Mrs. Silver now reside at No. 309 S. Fourth street. He is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Elks, while Mrs. Silver is one of the popular young married women of Hamilton, active in various affairs, and associate matron of Washington Chapter, No. 195, of the Order of the Eastern Star.

John Luechauer is the owner of a well-cultivated and valuable

farm situated in Ross township, Butler county, and is accounted one of his community's valued and public-spirited citizens. He was born at White Oak, Hamilton county, Ohio, April 10, 1859, a son of Martin and Margaret (Hane) Luechauer, natives of Germany, who were children when they came to the United States with their respective parents. Following their marriage, Martin and Margaret Luechauer settled near White Oak, in Hamilton county, and there passed the remaining years of their lives in agricultural pursuits, becoming highly respected and well-to-do people. Their children were: Anna, who is the wife of Theo Detman, of Hanover township, Butler county; Christina, who is the wife of John Myers; Mary, who is the widow of Martin Lewis; and John. The parents were members of the United Brethren church, and all the children were reared in that faith and to habits of honesty and industry, so that they grew to honorable man and womanhood. John Luechauer received his education in the district school at Pleasant Run and grew up on the home farm, where he continued to assist his father in the tasks of farming until his marriage to Katie, daughter of Jacob and Kate (Pfeindel) Westerman, who were residents of Hamilton and parents of the following children: Henry, Lucy, Will, Barbara and Kate. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Luechauer moved to Georgetown and lived on the Andy Jones place until 1901, when they came to their present farm in Ross township, a tract of 147 acres. They still occupy the home that was here when they came, improving it and making other improvements on the property. The land is devoted to general farming and the raising of a good grade of live stock, and Mr. Luechauer, through perseverance and industry, has become one of the well-to-do men of his locality. He is a good and public-spirited citizen and during the war was a generous contributor to the various drives promoted by the Government. He votes the Democratic ticket, and he and the members of his family belong to the United Brethren church. Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Luechauer, eight are living: Harry, John and Charles, who assist their father in the cultivation of the home place; Josephine, the wife of Walter Raum, a farmer of Morgan township, who has one son,—Paul; Lillie, the wife of Elbert Werbel, of Butler county, with one son,—John; Barbara, the wife of John Sipfel, a Butler county farmer, with two children,—Albert and Lucille; Kate, who resides with her parents and is her mother's assistant; and Marie, the wife of John Schwartzer, of Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. Hannah Luyster. A member of one of the old and honored families of the Miami valley, Mrs. Hannah Luyster has resided here all of her life, and is now spending her declining years amid the comforts of her pleasant home at Jacksonboro, in which locality she is the center of a wide circle of appreciative and sincere friends. Mrs. Luyster was born in Butler county, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Leslie. Her paternal grandfather was John Leslie, who was born in Loudoun county, Va., and went in 1797 to Pennsylvania, where he married in that year Hannah Davis, a native of the Keystone state. They became the parents of ten

children, of whom Joseph, Reazin, Hannah and John were the only ones to grow to maturity. In 1805 they moved to Preble county, Ohio, where they settled on a farm, and there passed the remaining years of their lives, the grandfather dying in 1853 and the grandmother two years later. When he went to Preble county Mr. Leslie possessed a capital of only $500, but he saw the possibilities of the country and entered five quarter sections of land from the Government. He became one of the wealthy and influential men of the county and was also highly esteemed as a public-spirited and patriotic citizen. During the War of 1812 he served as a teamster in the American Army, hauling flour from Middletown to Fort Meigs, Fort Defiance and Fort Recovery. The parents of Mrs. Luyster were born in Preble county, and passed their entire lives in Preble and Butler counties as agriculturists, the mother dying November 22, 1894, and the father February 14, 1902. They were honorable and God-fearing people, who were highly esteemed in their community, and who reared their children to lives of righteousness, industry and probity. Their children were: Steven, Davis, John, Reazin Tabitha, Hannah and Mary. Hannah Leslie received her education in the public schools in the vicinity of her father's farm, and while growing to womanhood was trained carefully in all the arts of domestic science. She resided with her parents until her marriage October 22, 1872, to John Luyster, who carried on farming until his death, in September, 1913, since which time she has resided on the old Leslie farm, located near Jacksonboro. This is a well-kept and valuable property, which reflects the cultured and refined taste of the owner. Mrs. Luyster is a great lover of flowers, and an attractive greenhouse in front of the home lends beauty to the general surroundings. Living on the homestead with Mrs. Luyster are her only daughter, Eva, and the latter's husband, William Michael, who were married November 25, 1900, and who have a daughter, Susie. William Michael has been a resident of Butler county since 1875, in which year he came from the state of Maryland with his parents. Mr. Michael is one of the skilled and industrious agriculturists of the community and through using modern methods in his work keeps the farm in splendid condition. He is a Democrat in politics, but has not sought public preferment. Mrs. Luyster is a member of the United Baptist church, in the work of which she has taken an active interest.

William A. Mack, a retired farmer of Wayne township, was born at Camden, Preble county, Ohio, March 10, 1840, a son of William Mack, who was born near Collinsville, Butler county, Ohio, and was of Irish descent. He was reared in his native place and attended its common schools, remaining at home until his marriage, when he located at Camden, Ohio, and embarked in business as a merchant and pork packer upon quite an extensive scale, conducting it until his death at the age of fifty-six years. In politics he was a Republican. William Mack was married to Miss Mary Jones, born in Wayne township, Butler county, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Jones, the former of whom was a native of Georgia, and one of the very early settlers of Wayne township, where he

secured 320 acres of land, adding to this till he owned 2000, a goodly portion of which was under cultivation at the time of his death, he passing away on his homestead at the age of sixty years. In addition to farming, William Jones raised a number of horses, cattle and hogs. He came of Quaker stock, his father being a preacher of the Society of Friends, and both were very highly respected. In politics William Jones was an old line Whig. After the death of his first wife, William Jones was married (second) to a Mrs. Carter, and when he was again left widower, he was married (third) to Amy Swain. He had the following children: Mary, Amy, Keziah, Sarah Ann, Elizabeth, Susan, and two sons. Mrs. William Mack was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She and her husband had three children, namely: Elizabeth, who died young; Andrew Jones, who married (first) Mary Ann Leslie, and after her death, married a second time; and William, who was the youngest. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Mack was married (second) to Samuel T. Rittick, a merchant at West Elkton, Ohio. She died in Wayne township, Butler county, in 1864. William A. Mack was six years old when he lost his father, and was taken by his mother to a home she bought in Wayne township, and here he was reared, attending the local schools. He remained with his mother until 1864, when he married, after which he settled at Seven Mile, Ohio, for two years, when he bought a part of his mother's farm in Wayne township. In 1881 he left this for his present farm of 302 acres, on which was an old log cabin. This he replaced the same year with the present handsome two-story ten-room brick house, and erected other necessary buildings, putting the farm in fine shape, and setting out the trees which now add so much to its beauty, and in addition to this farm, Mr. Mack owns 118 acres, and a substantial bank building at Seven Mile, Ohio. He has devoted his active years to farming, and has been very successful at it, specializing in general crops. About ten years ago he retired. April 13, 1864, Mr. Mack was united in marriage with Sarah A. Withrow of Wayne township, a daughter of Samuel P. and Mary Withrow, natives of Kentucky, who were early settlers of Wayne township, where Mr. Withrow speculated quite extensively in land and stock. He died at Seven Mile, Ohio, while his wife died in Wayne township. Their children were: John L., Robert B., Joseph, David K., who is the only survivor of the family, Theodore, Leonidas H., Mary, Sarah A., and Catherine. The first Mrs. Mack died September 11, 1907, having borne her husband two children: Samuel, who died at the age of six years; and Minnie M., who is at home. October 26, 1910, Mr. Mack was married (second) to Ida A. Thomas of Wayne township, a daughter of John and Mariah (Miller) Thomas, both of Wayne township. John Thomas was a son of Benjamin Thomas, born in Pennsylvania, who was a pioneer of Wayne township. He died in January, 1917, his wife having passed away in 1882. After her death, he was married (second) to Mrs. Belle Marks. By his first marriage, John Thomas had the following children: Benjamin, who lives at Clarksville, Mo.; Anna, who married John Carney, lives at Salina, Kans.; Ida, who is Mrs. Mack; Eliza-

beth, who married Fred Barr, lives in Madison township; Charles M., who is a farmer of Oxford, Ohio; John L., who is a farmer of Wayne township. William A. Mack and his wife and daughter are of a congenial and social nature, and are known for their hospitality. He is strong in his support of the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Seven Mile. Coming as he does of one of the pioneer families of the county, he forms a connecting link between those days and the present rising generation, and is proud of the fact that he has been permitted to see such marvelous development in the region where his useful life has been spent.

Charles Foster Macready, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Monroe, has succeeded to the practice of his father, Dr. James Macready, one of the distinguished men of his profession in Butler county, whose name is venerated by those of the older generation who benefited by his skill and experience. Charles Foster Macready was born at Monroe, O., October 28, 1879, a son of Dr. James and Sarah Elizabeth (Keyt) Macready, and grandson of John and Mary (Hart) Macready. Both John Macready and his wife were of Irish descent, and the former was born in 1808, and while still an infant was brought to Ohio by his parents, who settled near the present site of Cincinnati, where he was reared. He became a farmer of Warren county, O., and died there in 1841, and his wife, born in 1814, died March 27, 1841. They had three children born to them. Left at the tender age of six years, an orphan, James Macready was reared by his paternal grandparents, who took him to their farm in Warren county, and sent him to the common schools of the neighborhood. He possessed unusual ability, and not deterred by lack of sufficient funds, decided upon acquiring an education which would enable him to enter a learned profession. Step by step he progressed, being halted many times until he could earn enough money to take him a bit forward, and went through the Miami academy, and then took a year's course at Miami university at Oxford. In 1901 this university conferred upon Dr. James Macready the honorary degree of Master of Art. Going to Lebanon, O., he took up the study of medicine under Dr. Joshua Steven of that city, and completed his course at the Medical college of Ohio at Cincinnati, O., from which he was graduated in 1859, following which he began the practice of his profession at Bethany, O. Few of his associates made the record he did, and all of his life he realized that he owed his training to his perseverance, which did not permit him to be discouraged no matter what the obstacles, overcoming them by the power of his will and his ceaseless mental activity, rightly directed. In 1863, he responded to the call of his country for help during the Civil war, and enlisted in the Union army, being made assistant surgeon of the 13th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving until June 26, 1864, when he received his honorable discharge. Returning to Ohio, he located permanently at Monroe, and there rounded out his useful and successful career, and there died, being actively engaged in practice until his demise. He took a lively interest in local affairs, as a staunch Republican, and was a member of the school board for many years, refusing other political preferment. Profes-

sionally he was very active in the Butler County Medical society, the Ohio State Medical society, the American Medical association, and was secretary of the United States Pension Examining Surgeons for many years. He passed all of the chairs of Miami Lodge, No. 89, I. O. O. F., and was a charter member of the Hill City Lodge, No. 571, K. of P. May 8, 1860, Dr. James Macready was married to Sarah Elizabeth Keyt, born in Illinois, May 15, 1837, a daughter of Edward Keyt. She was educated at Cincinnati, O., and was a teacher in the public schools of that city prior to her marriage. An accomplished musician, she transmitted this talent to all of her children. Her death occurred February 23, 1897. Dr. James Macready and his wife had the following children born to them: Edwin Keyt, who was born October 6, 1862, died February 8, 1864; Etta DeCamp, who was born September 16, 1866, was married September 16, 1889, to D. E. Voorhis, and she died November 6, 1914; Joshua Hart, who was born January 5, 1868, died May 5, 1912, was graduated from Miami university in 1889, and from the Ohio Medical college in 1892, was engaged in practice at Cincinnati, O., and he married Caroline Curtis; and Charles Foster, whose name heads this review. The educational training of Dr. Charles Foster Macready was secured in Miami university, from which he was graduated in 1902, and the Miami Medical college, from which he was graduated in 1906. Immediately following the securing of his degree, Doctor Macready began the practice of his profession at Monroe, where he has since remained, the son following in the footsteps of the father, who is remembered as the man who was so big of brain and warm of heart that he had friends in every rank of life, and a reputation for medical skill that extended all over the state. Doctor Macready was married October 14, 1908, to Nell Farnshill, born at Miamisburg, O., July 12, 1886, a daughter of J. V. and Margaret S. (Bechtolt) Farnshill, both of whom were born at Miamisburg, O., where for fifty years Mr. Farnshill was engaged in business as a manufacturer, but is now retired. Mr. and Mrs. Farnshill had the following children: Jean, who married Marvin Buckly, lives at Springfield, O.; Nell, who is Mrs. Macready; Mary, who is deceased; Margaret Cora, who is a teacher, lives with her parents; Doris; J. D., who is with the signal corps of the United States Army; and Kathryn, who is living with her parents. The children born to Doctor and Mrs. Macready are as follows: Margaret, who was born January 13, 1913; and Elizabeth, who was born September 12, 1916. Doctor Macready is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his wife is a member of the Lutheran church. He is a member of Miami lodge, I. O. O. F. No family is better known in Warren and Butler counties than this one, and the name of Macready carries with it in these sections a sense of solidity and good citizenship, which is fully sustained by the present representatives of it. Doctor Macready, like his father, may be relied upon to take part in sustaining the better element in local affairs, but his time is too fully occupied for him to accept of political preferment.

David Malony. The career of David Malony, one of the well-known business men of Middletown, has covered many years of

participation in various lines of business usefulness, and his present connection with mercantile affairs rests in the proprietorship of a successful retail grocery. Mr. Malony was born on a farm in Preble county, Ohio, February 17, 1858, a son of Michael and Sarah (Creason) Malony. His father, a native of County Clare, Ireland, came to the United States in 1848, by way of New Orleans, which city was reached by the little party at the time of an epidemic of yellow fever. This was contracted by his wife, who died soon after, and Mr. Malony thereupon fled the scourged city, losing all his belongings. He managed to make his way to Cincinnati, where he worked at any employment he could secure for a time, and about 1850 went to Preble county, where he settled on a farm. In 1855 he was married to Sarah Creason, and they became the parents of three children: Michael H., who met his death in a railroad accident near Hamilton; David, of this notice; and James, twin of David, who is connected with the Baltimore & Ohio railroad and resides at Dayton. The father continued to be engaged in farming until his death, which occurred March 21, 1877, while the mother passed away April 5, 1875. The education of David Malony was not of an extensive character, being confined to about three months each winter term until he had just passed the age of thirteen years. His services were then needed on the home farm and he gave up his studies, but since that time close observation and experience have given him a good education and he is well-informed on a number of topics. When about nineteen years of age Mr. Malony came to Butler county, where he secured employment as a farm hand and was thus engaged at various places. In 1881 he located at Middletown, where he has since resided, his first employment being in the Sorg plant, where he was paid the sum of $5 per week for a start. He remained with that concern for seven and one-half years, at the end of which time he was receiving the highest salary paid, $11 per week, and subsequently was in the service of the Middletown Paper company, and the Tytus plant for three years. Mr. Malony embarked in business on his own account April 9, 1891, when he opened a grocery at No. 412 Moore street, and this he has conducted ever since, with the exception of a period of nineteen months, when he was living at Dayton. He now has a large and lucrative business, built up by his good management and honorable methods of doing business, and carries a full and up-to-date line of staple and fancy groceries, carefully selected, handsomely displayed and popularly priced, catering to a high class of patronage. The business enjoys an excellent reputation in trade circles, as the proprietor does in business life, and while the establishment has grown in public favor, Mr. Malony has been strengthening his position in public confidence. He was married December 8, 1880, to Miss Lydia A. Yeakle, a resident of Butler county, Ohio, and they became the parents of two children: Sarah E., who is now Mrs. D. C. Anderson, of Middletown; and Clara, who is now Mrs. O. P. Patrick, also of this city. The mother of these children died March 21, 1885, and Mr. Malony was again married, September 17, 1888, to Miss Johanna Williams, who died without issue in November, 1906. Mr. Malony took his third wife August 19,

1907, when he was united with Mrs. Agnes Taylor McCabe, daughter of James P. and Ellen (Tierney) Taylor. Mr. and Mrs. Malony are devout members of the Holy Trinity Catholic church.

Bryan Manning, a machinist by trade and a son of William H. and Sara (Griffey) Manning, was born June 24, 1897, in Wolf county, Ky. When a small boy, he came with his parents to Middletown, Ohio. After completing his education in the public schools, he became associated with the American Rolling Mill company as a machinist. He enlisted July 8, 1918, with Company B, 11th Marines and was sent to Quantico, Va., where he remained until September 30, when he sailed for France. Landing at Brest, October 13, he was stationed there until receiving his discharge, June 18, 1919. On his return home, he resumed the position with the American Rolling Mill company, which he had held at the time of his enlistment. Mr. Manning is a young man of fine attainments, genial in disposition and affable and courteous in manner, and popular with all who know him. He has seven sisters and brothers: Lizzie, Mrs. J. Wells; Cora, Mrs. William Montgomery; Florence, Mrs. Robert Smith; Pearl; Courtney; Maude, Mrs. Harvey Williams; Mamie, Mrs. Steve Osborn. All live in Middletown save Courtney, who is a resident of Illinois. Mr. Manning is unmarried and lives with his parents whose thrift and management have enabled them to hold and occupy as their own one of the most handsome homes on Lefferson street. Politically, our subject holds to the principles promulgated by the Democratic party.

John Manrod. Prominent among the respected and progressive agriculturists of Butler county is to be found John Manrod, now the owner of a handsome and valuable property located in Milford township. Mr. Manrod's career has been one of intense activity and industry ever since he started his independent operations, and his able management, wise investments and constant enterprise have combined to place him in a position of recognized substantiality among the farmer citizens of this part of Butler county. Mr. Manrod was born at Darrtown, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hyatt) Manrod. His father, a native of France, emigrated to the United States in young manhood, settling near Darrtown, where he met and married Elizabeth Hyatt, who belonged to a well and favorably known agricultural family of this region, and they settled down to a life devoted to farming, in which they were able to accumulate a satisfying share of this world's goods, the home farm consisting of 164 acres. They were the parents of Margaret, who is deceased; John, of this notice; Jacob, a resident of Hamilton; Charlotte, whose home is in Virginia; Mary, who is now Mrs. Ledwell, a resident of Hamilton; Roswell, who lives at Oxford; and McClellan, the owner of a good property in Hanover township, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work. John Manrod received his education in the public school at Darrtown, and under his father's training was brought up to be a practical and industrious farmer. He was married in 1874 to Sarah Jane, daughter of Bennett and Emmeline (Burke) Kay, residents of Ross township, Butler county. Bennett Kay was married three times, Mrs. Manrod's

mother being his second wife, and his third wife being Margaret Timberman, who bore him seven children. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Manrod they resided on a farm in Hanover township for a time, but subsequently removed to Riley township, where Mr. Manrod prosecuted his farming operations with continued industry and interest. From that locality he changed his residence to Woods station, although he continued farming in Riley and Morgan townships, but finally purchased his present farm, where he has lived since 1912, a property consisting of 222½ acres. This is a valuable farm which has been made attractive by the erection of good buildings and the installing of up-to-date improvements, and which has been carefully cultivated with the most modern machinery and appliances. While he is not a politician or office seeker, Mr. Manrod has taken a keen interest in local movements, and has never failed to support good enterprises which promise to be of benefit to the community of his adoption. He was particularly active during war times in lending his aid to all worthy causes. He and the members of his family belong to the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Manrod have six children: Nellie, who married William Teckman of Darrtown, and has three children, Ora, Ruth and Mabel; Jacob B., of Hanover township, who married Clara Weaver, and has three children, Walter, Mildred and Martha; George O., who resides at home and assists his father; Jesse K., who married Minnie Phares, of Wayne township, Butler county; Carl, who was overseas with the American Expeditionary Force and saw service in France with a machine-gun company, and who since his return has been attending Miami university; and Emmeline, the wife of Jacob Burkhart, of St. Clair township, Butler county, who has two children, John and George.

McClellan Manrod. Among the representatives of the farming interests of Butler county, one who has contributed strength and solidity to this honored vocation during a long and active career is McClellan Manrod, the owner of a valuable and well-cultivated property situated in Hanover township. Mr. Manrod has passed his entire life on this property, where he was born in January, 1864, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hyatt) Manrod, the latter a native of Darrtown, Ohio. Jacob Manrod was born in France and was a young man when he emigrated to the United States, settling near Darrtown, in Butler county. There he met and married Elizabeth Hyatt, who belonged to a family of agricultural people well and favorably known here, and they settled down to a life devoted to agriculture, the father working industriously, where he resided for so many years and where he died. The parents had a family of eight children: Margaret, who is deceased; John, a farmer and owner of a good property in Milford township, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work; Jacob, a resident of Hamilton; Charlotte, whose home is in Virginia; Mary, who is now Mrs. Ledwell, a resident of Hamilton; Roswell, who lives at Oxford; and McClellan, of this notice. The parents were honorable, God-fearing people, who reared their children to lives of industry and honesty, and who were highly esteemed in their community. McClellan Manrod was

given the advantages of a public school education in Hanover township, and upon the completion of his studies became his father's associate in his farming operations. He has always resided on this place, of which he became the sole owner in 1913, when he bought the place of a Mr. Smyley, and, at this time he has a model farm, with excellent improvements, where his intelligent operations are achieving him excellent returns for labor and capital expended and invested. General farming has received the greater part of his attention, although he is also accounted a good judge of stock, and raises some cattle as a side line. His buildings and equipment are modern, and his place in the community is among the substantial farming class. In 1891 Mr. Manrod was united in marriage with Mell, daughter of Israel and Letitia Welliver, of Riley township, Butler county, whose other children were: Ernest, who is now deceased, and Ollie, now Mrs. Landor. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Manrod: John C., on the home farm, who married Mildred Greenwood and has one child, Alice Louise; and Ernest E., a graduate of high school, who is now a student at Miami university. Mr. Manrod the elder is a staunch Democrat, and has taken an interest in civic affairs, having rendered excellent services in the capacity of member of the board of trustees of Hanover township, a position which he occupies at this time. He and the members of his family took an active part in all war activities, and in various ways have exemplified their patriotism and public spirit.

Peter P. Marsh. The name of the late Peter P. Marsh is inseparably associated with the farming history of Butler county for a long period of years following his attainment of manhood and ending with his death, May 2, 1907. He was of a good family, inherited qualities of an admirable nature, and in his career worked out a splendid destiny, leaving behind him a record of honest attainment and honorable living. Mr. Marsh was born at Poast Town, Butler county, O., a son of Richard and Eliza (Poast) Marsh, both of Madison township, this county. On the maternal side he belonged to the pioneer family for which Poast Town was named, while his paternal grandfather was John Marsh, who came from the East as a pioneer, bringing with him to an undeveloped and practically unknown country a wealth of resource and unspoiled ambition, tempered with rare judgment and business sagacity. In his veins flowed the blood of agriculturists, tradesmen and patriots, and that dignity upheld his actions commonly associated with people accustomed in youth to the settled conditions of the state of New Jersey, where he had been born. In the vicinity of Poast Town, where he located, he cleared a property and established a home, and there continued to be engaged in farming and blacksmithing during the rest of his life. Following in his father's footsteps, Richard Marsh engaged in farming, and he and his wife passed their entire married lives on the old homestead in Madison township, becoming well known and highly respected people, who were held in esteem for their many sterling qualities of character. They had three children: Peter P., of this review; Daniel, who lived on the home place and never married; and Abraham, a teacher, who died young. Peter P. Marsh was educated

in the country schools of Madison township and those at Middletown, and as a youth learned the carpenter's trade, a vocation which he followed in connection with farming during his entire life. He was a man who quickly gained and indefinitely held the confidence of those with whom he came into contact, and was known for his integrity, his industry and his fidelity to his word and the letter of his contracts. Mr. Marsh was married December 14, 1897, to Mary Elizabeth Reed, who was born near Monroe, O., a daughter of David and Caroline M. (Boyd) Reed, the latter of Monroe, O., a daughter of Andrew and Temperance (Pocock) Boyd. Mrs. Boyd was born in Maryland and came with her parents to Butler county, O., at the age of seven years, and at Monroe met Mr. Boyd, who had come from Kentucky and was proprietor of the first grocery at Monroe, where both died. They were the parents of eleven children: Caroline M., Rachael Ann, Catherine, Sophronia, an infant, Charlotte, Joseph, Sarah, Eugene, Mary and Agnes. David Reed was a son of Daniel and Ruth (Carrick) Reed, natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, who came as young people to America with their parents and settled in Pennsylvania, where they met and were married. Later, in 1794, they traveled on horseback to Bourbon county, Ky., taking with them their son, John, four years of age, but only remained there a short time and then pushed on to Butler county, O., and settled on Dix Creek, in Lemon township. In this wild territory, in which the Indians were still numerous, and wild game plentiful, they made their home, and here rounded out their careers, Mr. Reed passing away in 1812 and his widow surviving him until 1854. They were the parents of the following children: John, born in 1790, who was a farmer in Lemon township and married Nancy Morrison; Thomas, born in 1797, who was a farmer in Lemon township; George, who died as a lad; Margaret, who died in Indiana; Jane, who died single; William, a farmer of Lemon township, and father of Dr. T. E. Reed, of Middletown; Ruth, born in 1809, who married Edward Estle and died in Kansas; Betsy, born in 1806, who died single; Robert, who married Sallie Cassidy, and died in Iowa; and David, born in January, 1812. The children of David and Ruth Reed were as follows: Ruth, the widow of John Brown, of Hollister, Cal., with two children, Ida and Agnes; Andrew Boyd, a farmer of Lemon and Madison townships, who married Mary Gorsage of Maryland, who died in 1870, leaving two children, Anna, the wife of Frank White, a farmer of Madison township, and Clifford David, of Cleveland, vice-president of the Ohio Farmers Insurance company, treasurer of the Temple Motor company, and president of the Fourth National bank, married Jane Miller; David Chalmers, born in Butler county, O., lived in Illinois seven years, and subsequently at Labette, Kas., for a time, was in the Indian service twenty-five miles from Flagstaff, Ariz., for fourteen years, later resided in Hardin county, O., then farmed for twenty years in Lemon township, and lived retired with his sister, Mrs. Marsh, till he died, April 19, 1919; Mary Elizabeth, who is now Mrs. Marsh; Carolina Sophronia, born in Sangamon county, Ill., was a school teacher in Butler county for fifteen years, and now makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Marsh; Noble

King, a salesman of Middletown, who married Elizabeth Cleveland and has a son, Samuel B., born in Illinois; and Margaret Temperance, who died at the age of twenty-three years. After his marriage, David Reed lived on the home place for several years, following which he went to Sangamon county, Ill., and there engaged in farming for seven years. Returning then to Butler county, he spent the rest of his life here, passing away at the early age of forty-seven years, in 1859, while his wife survived until 1890 and died at Franklin, aged sixty-two years. They were active members of the United Presbyterian church at Monroe, where Mr. Reed was leader of the choir. This family is one of the best and most favorably known in Butler county, where its members have always taken a prominent and influential part in all activities, and where they have established excellent reputations for honesty, morality and good citizenship.

W. S. Marshall. The claim of W. S. Marshall upon the good will and esteem of the people of Warren county is based upon long residence, strict adherence to the ethics of right living, proper discharge of the duties of citizenship and a helpful interest in the welfare of his community and its residents. Mr. Marshall belongs to the agricultural class and has been successful in his operations, this due to the fact that he has used good management and progressive methods, that his early training was thorough and inclined to make him industrious, and that he has inherent ability in this direction, having come from a long line of successful tillers of the soil. W. S. Marshall was born in June, 1873, on a farm in Lemon township, Butler county, O. He belongs to a historic family of pioneers, for his great-grandfather built the second house located between the cities of Philadelphia and Chicago. This pioneer was the owner of a tract of 640 acres, secured from the United States Government, which has since increased to many times its original value, and is still in the possession of the Marshall family. On that homestead was born the grandfather of W. S. Marshall, James Marshall, who, like his father, was a man of sturdy character and industrious habits, a husbandman all of his life and a man much esteemed in his community, where he wielded no little influence in public affairs. He married Eliza Conover, also of Butler county, and they became the parents of a family of children, among them being M. V., the father of W. S. Marshall. Like his forebears, M. V. Marshall adopted the vocation of farming when he chose his life work, and the greater part of his career was devoted to the development of his land in Butler county. He had inherited their good qualities and his life was one in which he displayed the possession of industry and strength of character, while his operations brought him material success and his integrity won him public confidence and respect. He married Miss Simonton, and they became the parents of several children. W. S. Marshall received a public school education and much of his boyhood was passed in training for the calling it was supposed that he would follow, that of farming. He came of age in Butler county, but eventually removed to Warren county, where he resided for six years, then removed to the old homestead in Lemon township, Butler county, which still belongs to his father, and settled down to its

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES M. MARTIN AND SON ROBERT H.

development and cultivation, thus keeping alive family traditions. As noted, his work has already eventuated in success and this property is now one of the valuable ones of the township, having splendid modern equipment and good, substantial buildings. The machinery is of the latest type, evidencing Mr. Marshall's liking for modern methods; his cattle and other stock are sleek, content and well taken care of, and the farm gives a general impression of prosperity that speaks volumes for the ability of the owner. Mr. Marshall was married in 1894 to Miss Katherine Graham, daughter of James Graham, an agriculturist of Warren county, and to this union there have been born two children: James and Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall are members of the Presbyterian church. In his political views he is a Republican, and has something more than ordinary influence in his township, where he has served as judge of elections for upwards of twenty years.

Charles M. Martin, one of the typical native-born citizens of Butler county, where he is well and favorably known as a wide-awake, practical and progressive agriculturist, is the owner of a splendid property approximating 275 acres in Hanover township, all accumulated through the medium of his own industry. Mr. Martin comes of a long line of agriculturists, belongs to an old and honored family of Butler county which has resided here for generations, and is himself a native of this fertile county of the Miami valley, having been born on his father's farm July 29, 1871, a son of Robert and Isabelle (Mitchell) Martin. His father was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, where he was married to Isabelle Mitchell, who was born in Scotland and was three years of age when brought to the United States by her parents who settled near Oxford, Ohio, and there spent the rest of their lives. Following their marriage, the parents settled in Fairfield township, on the old Martin homestead, and that continued to be their home until the death of Robert Martin, when his widow moved to Oxford, and there died in 1914. They were the parents of the following children: A. W., a resident of Jacksonboro, Ohio; Helen, the wife of Charles Smith, a farmer of Fairfield township; Robert; Mary Isabelle, who resides at Oxford; W. Bruce; Charles M.; and George C. The public school at Jones Station, in Fairfield township, furnished Charles M. Martin with his educational training, and as a youth he was reared to the vocation of farming, in which his entire life has been passed. He was married in 1893 to Jessie, daughter of Frank Hites of Fairfield township, a well known and highly esteemed agriculturist of that locality. There were the following children in the Hites family: Hetty, who is the wife of Ben Cooper, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Hattie, who is the wife of Doctor Rosenbush, a practising physician of Hamilton; Lola, the wife of George Reif; Remmy, who is deceased; Franklin, who is also deceased; Jessie, the wife of Mr. Martin; Minnie, the wife of Ed Young, a resident of Yakima, Wash.; and Stanley, also of that city. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Martin resided in Fairfield township for three years, and then moved to Union township, which was their home for five years. Deserting agricultural pursuits temporarily, Mr. Martin then embarked in the transfer

business at Hamilton and devoted himself thereto for a period of eight years, but then disposed of his interests and in 1911 bought the old McGonigle farm in Hanover township. He has since sold off a part of this property, but is still the owner of 275 acres, and has his land under a high state of cultivation. His buildings have been remodeled and put into splendid condition, and his improvements and equipment are of the best, making of his property an ideal country estate. The manner in which he has conducted his activities has served to establish him not only as a capable, intelligent and progressive agriculturist, but as a man well meriting the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are the parents of one son: Robert H., who is attending high school. Mr. Martin the elder is a popular member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, but his chief interests are found in his farm and his home and he has not aspired to public office. He is a citizen who supports good movements in his community and who is thoroughly representative of the best agricultural element of the Miami valley.

Curtis Martin, who for a number of years has held an important position as superintendent of one of the departments of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, has passed his entire career in connection with his present line of work. Mr. Martin was born at Covington, Ky., November 20, 1871, a son of Thomas J. and Margaret (Mardis) Martin. The Martin family was well and favorably known at Covington, where its members had been people of industry, honorably connected with various lines of industry, and in the schools of that city the youth secured his education. He was an industrious and ambitious lad and was just beyond school age when he began to apply himself to the mastery of a useful trade. Not long after the establishment of the American Rolling mill at Middletown, he came to this big plant, a skilled, thorough and experienced workman, and rapidly rose to the superintendency of one of the departments. Mr. Martin has merited the recognition which he has received, for he has at all times been loyal to the interests of his employers while at the same time being popular with the men in his department. In politics Mr. Martin is a Republican, and he and his family belong to Holy Trinity Catholic church. February 22, 1894, Mr. Martin was united in marriage with Henrietta Holthenricks, who was born November 21, 1871, one day after Mr. Martin's birth, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Stahl) Holthenricks. Two sons have been born to this union: Clarence, born in 1897, who is employed at the American Rolling mill; and Ralph, born in 1902, who is employed at the plant of the Sorg Paper company, Middletown. The father of Mrs. Martin died in 1906, but her mother still survives.

Francis M. Martin. Among the wide-awake, energetic business men of Middletown is numbered Francis M. Martin, an honored veteran of the Civil war. He is well known as being engaged in house moving, and his watchfulness of business opportunities, his unfaltering perseverance and his well-known reliability are the elements which form the secrets of his prosperity. Mr. Martin was born August 6, 1845, in England, and when he was four years of age his father left that country for the United States and in his search

F. M. Martin

Mrs Francis Martin

for opportunities settled at Middletown where he engaged in work as a farm hand. Two years later, in 1851, he was joined by his wife and small son, who came down the canal by boat from Toledo, and in his boyhood Francis M. Martin saw the first train that ran over the C. H. & D. railroad. The elder Martin continued to work as a farm hand for a time and was also variously employed at Middletown, but did not seem to be able to get started on the highroad to prosperity, and finally disappeared, never to be heard from again by his family. Francis M. Martin, who had received a public school education, took up farming as his vocation and followed it for a long period with a certain degree of success, the result of his industry and perseverance. While thus engaged, he had some experience with house moving, and gradually became convinced that this presented opportunities for a permanent enterprise. After some preparation and experimental work, in 1882 he went to Middletown and secured a position in the paper mill which furnished him with employment until 1893. In that year he found himself ready to enter business on his own account, and established himself as a house mover, a business which he has followed now for more than a quarter of a century, with constantly increasing success. Mr. Martin has had the contracts for all the important work done at Middletown and in the surrounding country, and has done all the work of this character for the American Rolling mill. Mr. Martin is an honored veteran of the Civil war, having joined the Thirty-second Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry in January, 1865. He was in the army of General W. T. Sherman, with which he took part in a number of skirmishes, and conducted himself in a brave and soldierly manner. He received his honorable discharge July 24, 1865, at which time he returned to his home, at Middletown. Mr. Martin is fraternally identified with the Loyal Order of Moose, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also in business life. He is a Democrat in his political alliance, but is not radical in his views, and on occasion is apt to support the candidate of another party where he feels conditions warrant the setting aside of party lines. Local advancement and national progress are causes dear to his heart and in citizenship as in business he is alert and constructive. Mr. Martin was married December 11, 1866, to Miss Cynthia Ann Landis, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Kerns) Landis, of Preble county, Ohio, and to this union there have been born eleven children: One child who died in infancy; George, who is deceased; Wesley; Ida, who is deceased; George, also deceased; Frank; Effa, who is now Mrs. Thomas Pressler; Bertha, who is now Mrs. Manuel Clifford; William; Stella, now Mrs. Rollin Barrett; and James E. James E. Martin, the youngest son of Mr. Martin maintains the family military prestige as a soldier of the World war, having enlisted May 29, 1918, as a member of the 325th Field Artillery, A. E. F., and received his honorable discharge, March 1, 1919.

Jacob Martin. Prominent among the devotees of farming and stock raising in Butler county, one who has been the architect of his own fortunes and who has reared a structure of agricultural and general success is Jacob Martin, the owner of a fine property in sec-

tion 16, Lemon township. Mr. Martin was born at Trenton, O., September 28, 1858, a son of Henry Martin. The family is of French extraction, John Martin, the paternal grandfather of Jacob, having been a native of Lower France, also his wife, who bore the maiden name of Bauman. She died in 1839 and he also passed away in his native land, both in the faith of the Catholic church, and after worthy and honorable careers spent in farming. They were the parents of four children: Anna and Magdalena, who are both deceased; Lewis, who came to the United States and passed the rest of his life here; and Henry. Henry Martin was born January 8, 1828, at Weissenburg, Alsace-Lorraine, and was twenty-four years of age when he decided to come to the United States, being accompanied by his brother, Lewis. They made the journey on a sailing vessel, which took twenty-three days in accomplishing the trip, and from their landing point at New York city the brothers made their way to Cincinnati, O., where they had a cousin, and after a short stay moved on to Trenton, where Henry Martin secured employment on a farm at a wage of $6 per month. His brother Lewis was married there, and later enlisted for service in the Union army during the Civil war, in which he fought for three years. Later he returned to Cincinnati, where his death occurred December 25, 1916, he having attained the advanced age of ninety-one years. Henry Martin was married at Trenton, in 1856, to Mary Meyer, of Germany, and they continued to make their home at that place until 1871. In the meantime they had secured a team and later another, and in the year mentioned bought a farm in Lemon township, consisting of 162 acres, on which was a log house and small stable. Mr. Martin, a man of marked industry and resource, cleared and cultivated his land, erected the buildings just as they now stand, and in 1890 built a good brick house. During his active career he was always a farmer, and while he has been living retired for seventeen years still continues to take an interest in agricultural matters. He is a remarkable man for his years, with a splendid memory. He is a member of the Catholic church, to which Mrs. Martin, who died in June, 1919, also belonged. From hard labor at 65 cents per day to the ownership of large and valuable properties is a long step, but such was the task accomplished by Mr. Martin; during his career he was ever noted for his fairness and fidelity to engagements and contracts. There were seven children in his family: Margaret, who married Henry Keltman of Middletown; Jacob; Lizzie, the wife of Henry Brown, of Middletown; Herman, a farmer of Lemon township; John, a farmer on the home place; Henry, jr., a stockman of Middletown; and George, a railroad freight agent of Middletown. Jacob Martin attended the public schools south of Trenton, as well as those of Lemon township, worked industriously as a young man, and lived at home until he was thirty-one years of age. At that time he located on the Holly farm, which he operated for fifteen years, and in 1905 moved to his present farm in section 16, Lemon township, which he had purchased some time previously. In addition to remodeling the house, he put up a new barn, a silo and tobacco sheds, and in other ways improved his property until it is now one of the valuable and

attractive ones of his neighborhood. His 211 acres are under a high state of cultivation, being largely devoted to general farming, although Mr. Martin also does considerable trading in stock and has dairy cattle, the milk from which is sold at Middletown. He is a good business man who merits the confidence in which he is held by his associates, and his good citizenship has been exemplified on more than one occasion. As a voter he supports Democratic candidates and principles, and his religious connection is with the Roman Catholic church, he being a member of St. John's congregation. Mr. Martin married Miss Julia Wiesen, who was born at Somerville, Ohio, daughter of John and Catherine Wiesen, the former a tanner who died at Somerville, while Mrs. Wiesen passed away at Middletown. Mrs. Martin has a brother, John, who is a blacksmith of Madison, Wis.; and a sister, Kate, the wife of John Luen, of Middletown. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin: Hilbert, a graduate of the Middletown High school, single and superintendent of the Middletown Postoffice; Caroline, a graduate of the Middletown High school, wife of Joseph Gordon of that place; Llewellyn, a stenographer of Middletown; and Catherine, who resides with her parents; and Loretto, who died in 1894, when four years of age. All the children have been given good educational advantages.

John H. Martin, while a resident of Middletown only since 1916, when he came to this city from the east, has already impressed himself forcibly upon the people of this community as a man possessed of rare mechanical ability and ingenuity, thereby adding to the reputation which he had established in New Jersey. He was born at Easton, Pa., March 3, 1871, a son of Joseph Martin and Rachael (Rush) Martin, the former of whom died April 21, 1915, while the latter still lives in the east. His maternal grandparents were William J. and Letitia (Warman) Rush. Mr. Martin's only brother, William R. Martin, is blacksmith of the American Bridge company. John H. Martin received a public school education, and in his youth showed a disposition to ally himself with some mechanical trade. He was encouraged in various ways and gradually his native talent in this direction was developed and he became associated with large plants where his services were found of value and where every opportunity was given him to progress. Gradually he entered the field of bridge building, a line in which he has won marked success and in which his mechanical genius has been given full play. He has been identified with the work of building bridges in various parts of the country, notably the White River bridge, one of the finest in the United States. He came with his family to Middletown in 1916 and here has established himself firmly in his business associations, in addition to which he has identified himself as a solid citizen, reliable and public-spirited and a decided addition to the community. Mr. Martin was married at Stewartsville, N. J., December 23, 1893, to Miss Anna Laura Willever, born October 26, 1866, in New Jersey, daughter of Garrett C. and Mary (Myers) Willever, and granddaughter of John J. and Penelope (Conover) Willever and Mathias and Melinda (Broderick) Myers. Mrs. Martin is of Revolutionary stock, her great-grandfather, Hazard, having fought with Gen.

George Washington during the struggle for American independence. Her father died April 20, 1912, while her mother survived until August 10, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are the parents of two children: Russell W., born April 4, 1895, who joined the United States Navy, December 1, 1917, was "gassed" while in action against the enemy on a submarine chaser, and was at one time stationed in Northern Russia, is a Junior Mechanic, Odd Fellow and a Mason; and Harry W., born December 22, 1899, who graduated from the Phillipsburg high school, New Jersey, in June, 1917, and is at present in the employ of the American Rolling mills at Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are also rearing a niece, Mildred S. Martin, who makes her home with her uncle and aunt to whom she is devotedly attached. She was a member of the 1919 graduating class of the Middletown high school. Mr. Martin is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, the I. O. O. F., and the Order of Elks, in all of which he is very popular. He is non-partisan in his political views, and a generous supporter of all beneficial movements, civic, educational or religious. He and Mrs. Martin, the latter a woman of cultured and pleasing personality, are members of the Presbyterian church. The Martins have just completed a beautiful and palatial residence, located on 107 S. McKinley avenue.

Reuben Martin was born in Huntington, Brown county, Ohio, September 7, 1842, and is the son of Edmund and Mary (Greene) Martin. Edmund Martin was born near Wheeling, West Va., and his wife was a native of Brown county, Ohio. Edmund Martin came with his parents to Brown county, and settled on a farm. His brothers and sisters were Elijah, Ezekiel, Samuel Absalom, Alexander, Hannah and Jane. Samuel had two sons, Elijah and Samuel, jr., who fought in the Union army during the Civil war. Alexander also had a son, Rufus, who was a soldier of the Union. Edmund Martin and wife settled in Union township, Brown county, following their marriage, and later became residents of Huntington township. He was prominent in the affairs of his community, and was well known as a breeder of draft horses, in which business he was engaged very successfully for many years. To them were born the following children: Rufus, Samuel, Edmund, jr., Ezekiel, Reuben, subject of this sketch; Johnson, Alexander Quincy and Adeline, all of whom are deceased but Reuben. Reuben Martin attended school in Brown county, and worked for his father. On February 23, 1882, he was married to Marianna Brown, daughter of John L. and Caroline (Mason) Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born in Aberdeen, Ohio, the former being a son of George Brown, one of the early citizens and pioneer boot and shoe makers of Aberdeen. George Brown and wife had these children: Thomas, Louis, James, George, Richard and Maria. Louis Brown was the father of four sons, three of whom, John, Rufus and Calvin, were soldiers in the war for the preservation of the Union. Thomas Brown's family also had a splendid record of service to the republic in its time of need, for John, Jefferson Jackson, Albert, and three other sons served in the Civil war, as did two sons of James Brown. Caroline Mason was the daughter of Thomas and Mary (O'Connor) Mason, both natives of

Aberdeen, Ohio, who had the following children: Caroline (Mrs. Martin's mother), Nancy, and Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Brown lived at Indianapolis, Ind., on a farm northwest of Ft. Benjamin Harrison. He was elected county treasurer of Marion county at an early date. Later Mr. Brown moved to a farm in Marion county, acquiring about 700 acres in that vicinity. To them were born the following children: Marianna, who married Reuben Martin; Clara Belle, Stella Lee, now Mrs. Andy Huff; John W. and Daniel E. Brown. The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Reuben Martin was Mary Lee, a cousin of Robert E. Lee; and John Brown, the martyr of Harper's Ferry, was related on the paternal side. Thus the family record is interwoven with historic incidents and characters. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Martin occupied the Brown homestead near Aberdeen, Ohio, for about thirty years. Seventeen years ago they moved to the place where they now live, which consists of 147 acres of the old Jones farm, but they still retain their present holdings. Reuben Martin is a prominent and successful citizen and is engaged in general farming and raising purebred cattle. To Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Martin were born the following children: John and Daniel, at home; Clarence R. and Mary Lee, who became the wife of Roy Walling, of Akron, Ohio. Clarence R. Martin attended school at Lawrence, Ind., and was graduated from the following seats of learning: a school at Indianapolis; the Indiana Law school, and the University of Michigan Law school at Ann Arbor. He later engaged in practice at Indianapolis. When America entered the World war, Clarence R. Martin entered the first officers' training camp at Ft. Benjamin Harrison and was commissioned captain and sent to Camp Taylor. He was later promoted to major and assigned to duty as camp inspector. Selected for overseas service, he was sent to France, and there detailed to a military school for further instructions. Later he saw active service at the front.

Edward Marts. For more than a decade over a century the Marts family has been identified with Butler county, and during this time its members have been important factors in the progress and development of this fertile and productive region of the Miami valley. Those who have borne the name have been people of worth and stability who have characterized their actions by strict adherence to high principles of living and citizenship, and for the greater part agriculture has been the family vocation. To this occupation Edward Marts, a worthy representative of the family, has devoted his life, and his farm lying just outside of Jacksonboro evidences the fact that he possesses in full the family characteristics of industry and farming ability. Mr. Marts was born near Jacksonboro, Butler county, Ohio, a son of David J. and Sarah Jane (Paullin) Marts. His grandfather, David Marts, was born on a farm in Madison township, Butler county, June 15, 1815, a son of Abraham and Mary (Reed) Marts, who came to Butler county in 1808, Abraham Marts subsequently fighting as a soldier during the War of 1812. The grandfather of David Marts, also named David, was an American soldier during the Revolutionary war and fought with gallantry in

the battle of Brandywine. David Marts the younger was married four times, first to Mary Snyder, daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Weaser) Snyder; second to Catherine Snyder, daughter of Daniel and Catherine Snyder, and third to Elizabeth Shartle, daughter of Daniel and Mary (Lingle) Shartle. By these unions he was the father of eleven children: Abraham, Samuel, Mrs. Catherine Carson, Mrs. Mary Gebhart, Mrs. Sarah Johns, John W., Snyder, David J., Willard, Charles and Mrs. Ida Long, of whom all are deceased, except Mrs. Mary Gebhart and David J. David Marts, the father of these children, had a reputation throughout the countryside for his gift in the cure of cancers, and his reputed cures in this connection brought him visitors from miles around. He was one of the prominent and influential men of his day, and served as township treasurer twenty years, as county commissioner for six years, and from 1860 to 1880 as appraiser of real estate for Madison township. He was also a successful farmer and a highly respected citizen. The parents of Edward Marts, David J. and Sarah Jane (Paullin) Marts, passed their lives as farming people of Butler county, where they established reputations for good citizenship and industry, and where they became widely known and universally esteemed. Edward Marts was educated in the public schools of Jacksonboro, where he had as a county teacher, James M. Cox, present governor of Ohio, who still cherishes in his heart a warm spot for the friend of his boyhood and holds him among his closest friends. Mr. Marts was one of Governor Cox's appointees as oil inspector. After completing his education, for a time Mr. Marts taught school at Jacksonboro, and has always been a staunch supporter of education, being a member of the board of directors of his home school district, and is at present a member of the board of education of Butler county. Leaving the schoolroom for the farm, Mr. Marts started agricultural operations on his own account, and at this time is the owner of a valuable and attractive property which lies just outside of the corporate limits of Jacksonboro. This has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and the buildings are modern and the equipment complete and up-to-date in every particular. Mr. Marts carries on his operations along scientific lines and has made a decided success of his labors. He married Grace, daughter of James M. Shafor, of Jacksonboro, and to this union there have been born four children: Lester, Howard, Elizabeth and Zelma. In politics Mr. Marts is a Democrat, and he and the members of his family belong to the United Brethren church.

Russell E. Mattex, a successful farmer and trustee of Madison township, was born on the old Mattex homestead in this township, November 28, 1877, a son of Elias Mattex, and grandson of David Mattex, a native of New Jersey, who was the first of the family to come to Butler county, Ohio. David Mattex was married to Effie Rutan, and they located on ninety acres of wild land at Miltonville, and here he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. He cleared off and developed his farm and made it a valuable property. Their children were as follows: Susan, Elias, Squire and Mary. Elias Mattex was reared on his father's farm, and had but limited

educational advantages, but made the most of what he had. Remaining at home until his marriage, he learned farming in all its details from his father, and after a year, returned to the homestead, where he lived until his death in December, 1905, when he was eighty-two years old. His wife passed away in 1894. Their children were as follows: Theodore, who is living in Montana, where he conducts a large ranch; Effie, who was married to Arthur Maud, lives southeast of Hamilton, Ohio; Russell E.; and Anna, who married Harry House, lives at Miltonville, Ohio. Mrs. Mattex was the widow of Jacob Wescoe when she was married to Elias Mattex. She and her husband added to the original Mattex homestead until they owned about 150 acres of land. Russell E. Mattex attended the common schools of Madison township, and lived with his parents as long as they were spared to him. As a very young man he assumed charge of the farming, and conducted the home place until the death of his father when it was divided and sold. Mr. Mattex later bought twenty-two acres of land north of his old home, and farms it and other land which he rents, being very successful in his work. He makes his home at Miltonville, however, going back and forth each day to his farm. January 19, 1918, Mr. Mattex was elected township trustee, on the Republican ticket, and still holds that office. He is also one of the trustees of Trenton, Ohio. Fraternally he belongs to Middletown Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Trenton Lodge, J. O. A. M. Not only has Mr. Mattex prospered in his farming, but he has proven himself an efficient official, his judgment as such being generally recognized as upright and sincere. Still in the very prime of life, he is ambitious for the future, and the coming years will doubtless bring him other honors and material prosperity.

Clifford Matthews. During the past eight years Clifford Matthews has been identified with the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, and in this time has come to be known as a conservative, steady going and entirely competent workman. In the capacity of rougher he is a part of the intricate and varied human machinery which furnishes the brain-power for the working of the huge machines. Mr. Matthews was born at Piqua, Ohio, and is a son of Richard and Margaret Matthews, the former of whom is now deceased, while the latter is a resident of Middletown. He has four brothers and one sister: Stanley, who is a resident of Newport, Ky.; Samuel, of Middletown; Parker, also of Middletown; and Agatha, of Piqua, Ohio; Lawton, of Warren, Ohio. The public schools of his native place furnished Clifford Matthews with the opportunities for an educational training, and his boyhood was passed much the same as that of other lads of his community. Like others, he looked forward to the day when he would be old enough to take his place with the other workers in "the mills," and when that time came he was ready to meet the test and to show that he was possessed of the ability and stamina to measure up to acceptable standards. After spending some years in the rolling mill at Piqua, the mills closed down and he worked in Wheeling, W. Va., mills before coming to Middletown in 1911, and here he has since remained as an employee of the American Rolling mill. He capably discharges the duties per-

taining to the position of rougher, and during the time of his employment here has gained the reputation of being steady, dependable and competent, and at the same time has earned and held the good-will and friendship of his fellows. Notwithstanding, a somewhat quiet and retiring nature, he enjoys the companionship of his comrades, with whom he fraternizes as a popular member of the local lodges of the Masons. He belongs also to the M. E. church. Mr. Matthews married Miss Edith Wilson, of Wheeling, W. Va., whose parents are still residents of that city. Mrs. Matthews has one sister, Mrs. Anna Burke, and one brother, Carl, both residents of Wheeling. Mrs. Matthews is a young woman of many accomplishments and possessed of a charming disposition. She is a member of the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, in which she has numerous friends, as she has elsewhere, as she is generally popular. Particularly is she a favorite with children, and her friends' children are guests frequently at the handsome Matthews home, which was erected by Mr. and Mrs. Matthews during the summer of 1919.

Wilson S. Mears. No history of Butler county or this portion of the Miami valley would be complete without mention of Wilson S. Mears, for many years a leading agriculturist and now living a retired life. He was identified with this section in young manhood, received his education in its public schools, left it to fight for the Union in the Civil war, returned to help in its development and further advancement, and today, having gained prosperity through well directed and honorable effort, is enjoying well earned rest from further labor and occupies an attractive and comfortable home at Middletown. Mr. Mears was born September 1, 1844, at Poast Town, Butler county, a son of Samuel and Mary (Keister) Mears, natives of Poast Town, the former born in 1804. The founder of the family in this county was Alexander Mears, who came from Pennsylvania at a very early day, while the maternal grandfather of Mr. Mears was Jacob Keister, also from the Keystone state, and both were farmers all their lives. Samuel Mears, in addition to carrying on farming, operated a threshing outfit, and lost his life when his son Wilson S. was a lad. While growing to young manhood in the home of his stepfather, Jacob Temple, jr., Wilson S. Mears secured his education in the public schools of the country district. The Temple family was the first to settle Poast Town and the surrounding country, and many of the name still live in this community which had its beginning with their settlement. John Temple, the father of Jacob jr., fought as a soldier during the Mexican war. When the Civil war came on, there was no more ardent young Unionist in Butler county than Wilson S. Mears, and it is reported that he was only eighteen years of age when he cast his first presidential vote, for Abraham Lincoln. It was not until August 8, 1862, however, that he could get himself accepted for service, at that time entering Company D, Ninety-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. The Ninety-third was encamped near Dayton (The National Cash Register company put up a monument on the grounds where the regiment was camped), on the old Patterson

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farm. Young Mears was mustered into the service August 20, and three days later, with 967 comrades, left for the front. From that time on the regiment saw hard and constant fighting, and when mustered out of the service at Nashville, Tenn., June 8, 1865, consisted of only 367 men. Mr. Mears' battles included the following: Lebanon, Stone River, Chickamauga, Browns Ferry, Orchard Knob, Missionary Ridge, Dandridge, Buzzards Roost, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Lovejoy Station, Jonesboro, Franklin, and Nashville. During his brave and faithful service, Mr. Mears was struck by bullets four times, once a bullet barely grazed his cheek, and on numerous other occasions he had narrow escapes, through the intrepidity which led him always into the thick of the engagement. It is characteristic of him, that on the first day that he returned home, he did not stand around, gossiping, telling stories or boasting of his exploits, but at once removed his coat and started in to help his stepfather with the hay and corn. That kind of industry and sense of responsibility assisted him materially when he engaged in farming on his own account, and helped him to the accumulation of substantial and worth-while property. In 1905 he retired from active labor and settled at No. 639 Garfield avenue, Middletown, where he now makes his home. Mr. Mears was married September 20, 1866, to Miss Martha Elizabeth Poast, daughter of Michael and Mary (Lucas) Poast, and four daughters and six sons were born to this union: Nettie, Charles, Sadie, Mary, Ira, Samuel, Bert, John, Alma and Clyde. In 1900 Mrs. Mears suffered fatal injuries in a fall down stairs, resulting in her death, and this accident also resulted indirectly in serious injuries to Mr. Mears, for while he was going for a doctor to attend his wife he fell from his buggy and his injuries confined him to his bed for sixteen weeks. In 1905 Mr. Mears was again married, being united with Mary Leshar, daughter of Henry and Mary (Ankerman) Leshar, the former born near Dayton and the latter in Germany. To this union there has been born one daughter: Nellie May, at home. Mr. Mears has taken an active part in public affairs in his community, having been a member of the board of supervisors and of the school board for a number of years. He is a staunch Republican and a popular comrade of the local post of the G. A. R.

John F. Mee, was born June 2, 1852, at Darrtown, Ohio, a son of David Mee of Wales, who settled in the Monongahela Valley in Pennsylvania on his arrival in this country. He later came to this county and married Mary Magdalene Flenner. Mr. Mee attended the public school of Darrtown, and at an early age displayed marked talents as an educator, having received his first teacher's certificate at the age of fifteen. After teaching several years in his home schools, he attended the commercial college at Cincinnati, and at the age of twenty-one was elected president of the Commercial college of Covington, Ky. Later, he returned to his home at Darrtown, where on March 19, 1875, he married Mary Emmaline Teague, daughter of James C. and Delilah (Randall) Teague. Mrs. Mee is a charter member of the Order of the Eastern Star at Oxford, and

is a member of the Methodist church and the Ladies' Aid Society at Darrtown. In his early life Mr. Mee took an active interest in politics, was a member of the Democratic Executive Committee and served as deputy sheriff of Butler county. He was one of the organizers of the Oxford National bank, and served as a director and its first vice-president. Mr. Mee was a thirty-second degree Mason of the Scottish Rite at Dayton, and a Knight Templar as well as being a member of the Mystic Shrine at Cincinnati. His father and grandfather were also Masons, and Mr. Mee was favorably known in that fraternity, in which he had many friends. Mr. Mee's death occurred August 25, 1917, when there was removed from his community a citizen who had been a useful and constructive factor in its growth and development. Besides his widow, two children survive: Edna (Mee) Stork of Oxford, and R. Kirk Mee of Darrtown.

R. Kirk Mee. The agricultural interests of Butler county have no more progressive or enterprising representative than R. Kirk Mee, who, after an experience in mercantile pursuits, has returned to the soil and is now extensively and successfully engaged in operations in Milford township, Butler county. Mr. Mee was born at Darrtown, Ohio, December 1, 1886, a son of John F. and Mary E. Mee. He received a common school education in the Darrtown and Oxford public schools, and later pursued his studies in Miami university and Ohio Northern university. He was married May 8, 1907, to Helen Frances Hickernell of Ada, Ohio, daughter of the Rev. Calvin B. and Mollie (Schoonover) Hickernell. Mrs. Mee was educated in the public schools of Ada and at Ohio Northern university, and also studied vocal music under the late Mrs. Harriet Walker Tyson and Professor Owen. She is a member of the Eastern Star and of the Theta Phi Delta college sorority. Mr. and Mrs. Mee are the parents of two children, John F. Mee, jr., and R. Kirk Mee, jr. Mr. Mee is a thirty-second degree Mason of the Scottish Rite at Cincinnati, a Knight Templar, and a member and treasurer of the Mystic Shrine at Hamilton, at which city he also holds membership in the B. P. O. E. In addition to these fraternal connections he is affiliated with the Sigma Phi Epsilon college fraternity at Ohio Northern university, and to the Theta Nu Epsilon inter-college fraternity. One of the active and influential Democrats of his county, during the past eight years he has been assistant secretary and a member of the Democratic Executive Committee of Butler county, as well as being deputy State Supervisor and inspector of elections of the same county. He is the youngest member of the Butler County Agricultural Board, which he is now serving in the capacity of treasurer. Mr. Mee has also been president of the board of Education of Milford township, and helped materially in bringing the schools up to their present high standard.

Peter M. Mehas, one of the proprietors of the Opportunity Barber shop, Hamilton, and also interested in other important ventures, was born May 27, 1890, in Sparta, Greece, a son of Michel and Evelyn Mehas, prominent farming people of their native land, where both passed away. Peter M. Mehas attended the public

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schools of Greece until he was eleven years of age, at which time, in 1901, he emigrated to the United States and, after a short stay at New York, went to the home of his uncle and aunt, at Cincinnati. He proved an industrious and energetic youth, and while attending the public schools of Cincinnati spent his leisure hours in working, so that when he completed his studies he was capable of rendering efficient help to whomsoever should be in need of his services. For a time he was variously employed in fruit and confectionery stores and also mastered the barber trade, and in 1908 opened a tonsorial parlor in partnership with Joseph Craven, in Cincinnati. At the end of four years he bought his partner's interest and continued the business alone, making a success of his undertakings and attracting to himself numerous friendships. In the meantime his brother, George Mehas, had come to the United States, and June 5, 1915, the brothers came to Hamilton, where they purchased the Colonial billiard hall, bowling alleys and barber shop, at 236 High street. One year later, June 5, 1916, they purchased what is now known as the Opportunity Barber shop, which was then owned by George Sutter, but which has since been greatly improved and enlarged to a seven-chair establishment, with the finest of fixtures and all modern appurtenances, equipment and accommodations. Peter M. Mehas now manages the barber shop, while George M. Mehas has charge of the billiard academy and bowling alleys. In 1918, the brothers bought a $25,000 building at Middletown, with Peter Courlas, each of the partners owning a one-third interest therein. Mr. Mehas is also the part owner of a wholesale and retail barbers' supplies business at Indianapolis, Ind., managed by Paul W. Jackson, who also has a half-interest in the business. Mr. Mehas is a business man of excellent capacity and his rating is high in commercial circles. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Hamilton, and a charter member of Opportunity Lodge, No. 761, Knights of Pythias. February 7, 1915, he was married at Cincinnati to Helen Morris, also a native of Sparta, Greece, who was brought by her parents to the United States as a small child. They are the parents of two children: Michel, born in 1915; and James, born in 1919. The family home is at 853 Central avenue, and was bought by Mr. Mehas in 1916. George M. Mehas is also married, has two children, and is a resident of Hamilton.

Jacob Mehl. The progressiveness and determination to make himself a potent factor in the agricultural affairs of Butler county, Ohio, which characterized Jacob Mehl in his youth have been accentuated within the last decade, he having increased his landholdings from time to time until today he is one of the truly representative tillers of the soil of Liberty township. From the day that he started making his own way in the world as a farmhand until he himself had become the owner of a fertile tract he has adhered with true devotion to the accepted rules for success that should guide every enterprising young man who would follow the vocation of farmer. His success has been all the more flattering because of the fact that he plodded along slowly and was content with the small financial returns that come from limited land owner-

ship. But his comprehensive grasp of conditions in the realm of agriculture and his enthusiasm over the future of Butler county as a farming community caused him to invest whatever money he could earn in additional acres with the result that his holdings today in that county total 270 acres of productive land. He was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, March 7, 1865, one of twelve children of Jacob and Lena (Wehr) Mehl, who were both natives of Strasburg, Germany. Besides Jacob, the other children, eleven of whom are living, were—Elizabeth, Anna, Lucy, Mary, Lena, Clara, Sarah, Samuel, William and Frank. The father came to the United States when a young man, locating in Butler county, where he worked as a farmhand a number of years. Later he rented a farm and soon the results of his efforts became apparent. In addition to his success with his acres he also became popular in the community and was respected by all as a desirable citizen who had the best interests of the community at heart. He passed away in 1889 and it may be truthfully said that genuine sorrow was expressed over his death. His sons and daughters had now grown to maturity and were well equipped, both by home training and inherited smartness, to perpetuate the estimable name of the family. Jacob received his education in Milford township, Butler county, and after leaving school was employed as a farmhand for a time, later leasing a farm. In 1900 he purchased the property he is now living on and operating in Liberty township, which consists of 145 acres. He has increased his holding in Butler county from time to time until today he owns about 270 acres of valuable land in Liberty township. He has spent his money unsparingly whenever he believed that such action was warranted in making improvements on his property. The buildings are up to date in every respect and all conveniences that a modern farm should have are provided. His returns from his investment have been such as to encourage him incalculably. He married Martha J. Boyle, daughter of John and Martha (James) Boyle. A history of the Boyle family will be found on another page of this publication. Seven children were born to Jacob Mehl and wife: Paul, Harry, John, Corwin, Stella, Esther and Helen. Paul is the husband of Hazel Brown and Harry married Mildred Kyle, one child resulting from this union, Myron.

Elmer Mendenhall. It is not worth while here to expatiate in cant phraseology upon the well known reputation of Quakers for honesty, integrity and reliability, but it may be justifiable to state that perhaps the mental and moral constitution of Elmer Mendenhall is an inheritance from the fine old Quaker stock from which he is descended. Mr. Mendenhall, who is engineer at the plant of the Sorg Paper Manufacturing company, was born at West Elkton, Ohio, a son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Reeves) Mendenhall. The family was founded among the earliest of this section of the Miami valley by the great-grandfather of Elmer, Elijah Mendenhall, who came to Ohio from Georgia and settled at West Elkton. There he rounded out an honorable career, was laid to rest in the Mendenhall private burial ground. Marmaduke Mendenhall, son

of Elijah, married Elizabeth Johnson, and they became the parents of the following children: Elijah, the father of Elmer; Nathan and Martha, who are deceased; Hannah, who is now Mrs. Walter Roberts, of Somerville; Joseph, deceased; William, a resident of Camden, Ohio; and three children who died in infancy. There were five children in the family of Elijah and Elizabeth Mendenhall, namely: Elmer; Harvey, who resides in Indiana; Lindley, living at Gratis, Ohio; Martha, who is deceased; and Etta, the wife of Charles Pugh, of Gratis. Elmer Mendenhall obtained a public school education at West Elkton, and when just past boyhood began to learn his trade. He proved an apt pupil and mastered his vocation, since which time his advancement has been consecutive and satisfying. For several years past he has been engineer at the Sorg Paper company's plant at Middletown, where his services have been highly appreciated by his employers. Mr. Mendenhall is rather retiring in disposition, but that he enjoys the friendship and comradeship of his fellows is shown in the fact that he holds membership in several fraternal organizations, among them the Knights of Pythias, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Modern Woodmen of America. His political adherence is with the Republican party. Mr. Mendenhall was married June 19, 1895, to Emma Elizabeth, daughter of James Wilson and Marietta (Smith) Withrow, of Seven Mile, Ohio. Her grandfather, Robert P. Withrow, was one of the early settlers near Seven Mile, where he donated the ground for the Methodist church, and he and Mrs. Mendenhall's great-uncles built the structure. Mrs. Mendenhall's mother died March 23, 1895, and she, as the only daughter, assumed the mother's duties in bringing up the boys in the family. Three brothers had died in infancy, but there were six living: Robert, a resident of Somerville, Ohio; Fred, who lives at Middletown; Minor, living at Darrtown; Carl, whose home is in South Dakota; Tony, who resides at Hamilton; and Herschel, who succumbed to the influenza epidemic in December, 1918. To Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall there have been born three sons: Earl DeWitt, Shirley Elijah and Lindley Clifford. Earl DeWitt Mendenhall possesses much musical talent and prior to enlisting in the United States Navy, where he was assistant band master on the battleship Arkansas, was particularly active in church work. He married Mary Hart, of Houtzdale, Pa. Shirley Elijah Mendenhall entered the United States Aviation Corps, and after training at San Antonio, Texas, was sent in July, 1918, to France, as corporal in the 107th Photo Section, U. S. Air Service, A. E. F. While home on a furlough from San Antonio he was united in marriage with Malvina Bennett. Lindley Clifford Mendenhall is attending the Middletown High school. The family resides in its splendid home on Eleventh street. They are members of the Methodist church.

Charles J. Merchant, a most active and progressive young citizen of Middletown, Ohio, son of Charles and Anna (McNeeley) Merchant, was born February 26, 1896, at the 16-Mile stand, in Hamilton county, Ohio, where his father was engaged in farming. In 1905, the family moved to Middletown, and the father became

a carpenter. The new high school building is evidence of his superior work and a monument to his skill and ability. Charles, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the public schools, graduated from the high school in 1916, then commenced work with the American Rolling Mill company as a draftsman, but, as in the case of other young men, his plans were somewhat deranged because of the World war. In the spirit of true American patriotism, he entered the service with the Aviation Corps, December 12, 1917, and on the 28th of that month was sent to Camp Taylor, Ky. He was transferred from Camp Taylor February 23, 1918, and three days later, February 26, arrived at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. His last transfer while in service was to Arcadia, Fla., September 9, 1918. He received his discharge March 26, 1919, and returning to Middletown, resumed his former position at the rolling mill. Mr. Merchant is a young man of much force of character and energy and is certain to succeed in life. He lives with his parents in their comfortable home on Lefferson street. He is a member of the United Brethren church, and a Republican politically.

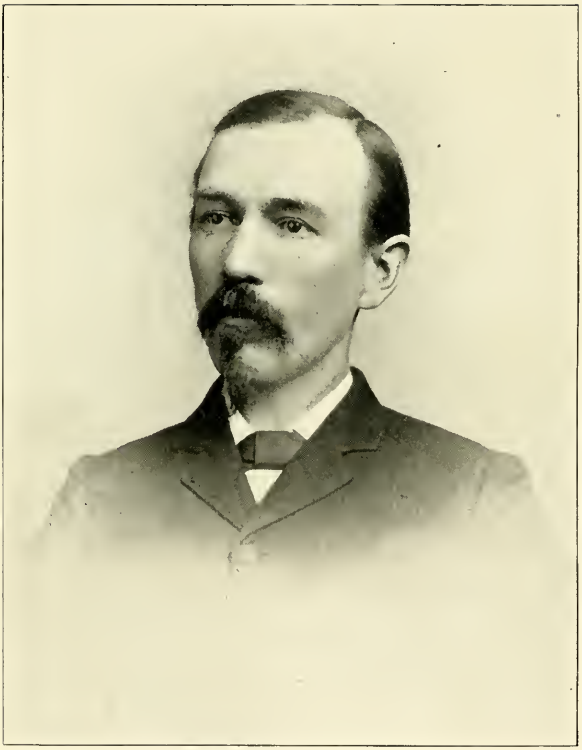
Edwin R. Merrill. Of the mechanical engineers who are connected with prominent manufacturing houses at Hamilton, none is known better than is Edwin R. Merrill, plant engineer and superintendent of maintenance of the Niles Tool works. By inclination, natural talent and long and comprehensive training of a comprehensive character, he is a thorough master of his vocation, and since coming to Hamilton, in 1910, has added to the reputation which he established during his nineteen years of successful accomplishments at Columbus. Mr. Merrill was born December 23, 1866, at West Falmouth, Me., a son of William and Ada (Winn) Merrill, natives of that state, where his father was formerly superintendent of one of the S. D. Warren Company's pulp mills but is now retired and a resident of Cumberland Center, Me. The Merrills are descendants of the old DeMerle family in France, who left that country to escape persecution at the hands of the Huguenots and fled to England where the present spelling of the name was adopted. Mrs. Merrill is a direct descendant of Captain Morrison of the King's Army in Scotland. The only child of his parents, Edwin R. Merrill attended the graded and high schools of Yarmouth village, Me., following which he completed a course at and graduated from Westbrook's seminary, at Deering, Me., where he took a scientific course. He was graduated as a mechanical engineer from the University of Maine, in the class of 1891, and in September of that year went to Columbus, Ohio, where he became associated with the Jeffrey Manufacturing company in the mining engineering department. He remained eleven years thus employed, and for the eight years that followed was assistant superintendent and plant engineer, but in 1910 resigned his position and December 1 became associated with the Niles Tool works of Hamilton, in the capacities of plant engineer and superintendent of maintenance, posts which he still retains. Mr. Merrill is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and of the Engineers club of

Cincinnati and is well and favorably known in his profession. In 1891 Mr. Merrill was united in marriage with Blanche Lansil, formerly of Orono, Me., and one of five children born to her parents. Her mother is now deceased, but her father, who was formerly prominent in the sawmill industry, still survives although retired from active pursuits. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Merrill: Reginald G., Evelyn Ada and Edith Lansil. Reginald G. Merrill was born in 1894, graduated from the high school at Columbus and took a two-year course in pharmacy at the Ohio State university. He was studying dentistry at the time the United States entered the great World war and enlisted in the photographic department of the air service at Cornell university, Ithaca, N. Y. He was subsequently appointed second lieutenant and appointed assistant military instructor, and was later ordered overseas in charge of the 52d Section Photographic Division, being on board transport the day the armistice was signed. He is married and living at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he is associated with the Johns-Manville company, as a member of the Cincinnati sales department. Evelyn Ada Merrill is a graduate of the graded and high schools of Hamilton, and of Martha Washington college, Abingdon, Va. She was at the Nurses' Training Camp, Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C., during the war. Is single and living with her parents at Hamilton. Edith Lansil, the youngest of the three children, is living with her parents at Hamilton and still a student in the high school.

Harry Metcalf, of Hamilton, who during the greater part of his life has been the incumbent of official positions connected with the preservation of law and order, has served as police officer, deputy sheriff and sheriff of Butler county, and at the present time occupies the post of special watchman at the plant of the Niles Tool company. Mr. Metcalf was born at Alton, Ill., in November, 1859, a son of Allen B. and Mary (Grummon) Metcalf, natives of Muskingum county, Ohio, who were married at Concord, this state. Allen B. Metcalf was a carpenter by trade and was fairly successful in his vocation, but feeling that the great west offered better opportunities for the acquiring of a fortune, in 1859, started for California. When he and his family reached Alton, Ill., it was found necessary to make a stop, but the father pushed on to California, and Harry Metcalf was born at the Illinois city. The father died in the west, and the mother, after a short stay at Alton, returned with her children, George B., Emma, Frank B. and Harry, to Ohio, where they resided for three or four years at Cincinnati, and then settled at Hamilton, where her death occurred. Harry Metcalf was educated in the public schools of Hamilton, and as a youth applied himself to learning the trade of blacksmith in the shop of Edward Goldrick. He worked only for a short time at his trade, however, and then joined the Hamilton police force, of which he was a member for nineteen years. For four years, under Sheriff Andrew Graff, he was deputy sheriff of Butler county, and in 1912 was elected sheriff, a position in which he served four years. When he was re-elected to that office he received the largest majority ever given a candidate

for that position, and continued to discharge the duties of his office with zeal, courage, honesty and ability until he was made special watchman at the plant of the Niles Tool company, a position which he still retains. Mr. Metcalf was married in 1880 to Carrie, daughter of Benjamin Antrim, of Hamilton, a veteran of the Civil war and long a resident of Hamilton, whose widow makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf. The latter have two children: Mary E., of Cincinnati, wife of Thomas Addison, a draughtsman for the Cincinnati Printing company; and Helen, wife of H. R. Smith, of the Commercial Gazette. Mr. Metcalf belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he has many friends, and he and his family are consistent members of the Methodist church.

William B. Meyer. Among the public officials of Butler county whose services have proved of benefit to their communities and who have conscientiously performed the duties pertaining to their elective or appointive offices, one who has also won the good will and esteem of the people is William B. Meyer, postmaster at Oxford, now serving in his second term. For a number of years a leading and well known business man, he displayed his integrity in business life and his probity of character, and these had much to do with securing his appointment to a position which he has honored by constructive and dignified service. Mr. Meyer was born in Union county, Indiana, in 1863, a son of George Meyer. His father, a native of Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1849, locating first at Stillwell's Corners, Butler county, where he conducted a blacksmith shop. Later he removed to Billingsville, where he also conducted a blacksmith shop for twelve years, but in 1865 returned to Butler county and located at Oxford, where he embarked in the hotel business. In 1891 he retired from active pursuits after a most honorable and successful career, and from that time forward lived quietly in his modern and attractive home at Oxford, where his death occurred in 1908, when he was eighty-three years of age. He was a Democrat in his political views and a highly respected citizen of his community, in the advancement of which he took a prominent part. Mr. Meyer married Walburga Eisenmann, of Germany, who came to the United States as a young woman of eighteen years and died in 1898, when sixty-five years of age. They became the parents of three children: George, a resident of Oxford; Anna S., who married Edward Riggs; and William B. William B. Meyer attended the public schools of Oxford, and as a youth was employed by his father in the hotel business. After fifteen years of this experience he turned his attention to the livery and undertaking business at Oxford, under the style of Nagel & Meyer, this association continuing successfully until Mr. Meyer's appointment, in September, 1913, to the office of postmaster. He is now in his second term. During his administration he has been successful in improving the service, and as the possessor of qualities of candor, sincerity, faithfulness and affability, retains a high standing in the estimation of those whose interests are entrusted to his care. As Mr. Meyer has never been a seeker for public preferment, the office came to him unsought, yet he has done his utmost to discharge



FRED J. MEYERS

his duties in an entirely competent and expeditious manner, and in this aim he has been successful as is shown by public confidence and favor. Mr. Meyer is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliation and wields some interest in the ranks of his party locally. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks lodge at Hamilton and also with the lodge of the Knights of Pythias at Oxford. Mr. Meyer was married at Hamilton to Margaret, daughter of Peter Milders, of Hamilton, and they are the parents of three children: Flora, the wife of Hugh Stephenson of Oxford, with two children,—William and Robert; Margaret, who resides with her parents at Oxford; and Martin, an employe of the Goodyear Rubber company of Akron, Ohio.

Fred J. Meyers. In the field of wire and iron goods manufacture, one of the best known and oldest established concerns of the Miami valley is the Fred J. Meyers Manufacturing company, of Hamilton. Founded fifty-five years ago, it has been located at Hamilton for more than a quarter of a century and at all times has maintained a high standing in trade circles, due to the honorable policy under which it is conducted. Its founder and president, Fred J. Meyers, who has directed its operations since its inception, is a man of marked and definite business ability. He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, March 28, 1845, a son of Henry Meyers, and was a child when taken to Covington, Ky., where he was given his education in the public schools. His opportunities in this direction were limited, but he made the most of his chances, and being an ambitious and industrious youth early began to plan for his career. Being attracted to the business of fashioning articles from wire, he mastered this trade, and when but twenty years of age embarked in business on his own account. For a time he was associated with John Mieth, but eventually purchased the latter's interests, and continued at Covington as a private enterprise until 1890, about which year he incorporated the business for $125,000 as the Fred J. Meyers Manufacturing company. He was its first president, a position which he has retained to the present time, William Ernst was the first vice-president and Edward Ernst was first secretary and treasurer. In 1893 the business was brought to Hamilton, where it was established in the present building, at that time newly built, and five years later a reorganization of the business was effected, the officers at that time being: Fred J. Meyers, president; J. A. Woolflange, vice-president; J. C. Bramlage, secretary; J. F. Woolflange, treasurer; and Fred L. Meyers, cashier. The business is still incorporated for $125,000, and 200 people are employed in the manufacture of wire and iron goods. The product of this company has a wide sale, being known to the trade to be of superior quality and excellent workmanship. Mr. Meyers is a member of the Association of Commerce and has been honored by his fellow-members with election to a position on the board of trustees of this body. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus, and he and his family are members of St. Stephen's Catholic church. His political adherence is given to the Republican party. May 22, 1865, Mr. Meyers married Minnie, daughter of Edward Thoss of Covington,

Ky., and they have been the parents of eight children: Minnie, who is deceased; Elizabeth, the wife of William Kramer, of Cincinnati; Theresa, who resides with her parents; Catherine, the wife of George Weickert, of Hamilton; Fred L., cashier of the Fred J. Meyers Manufacturing company; and Edward, residing with his parents; Jennie, wife of Martin Arnold; Julie, wife of Joseph Bung.

John Michael. Agricultural methods in Butler county have changed to a remarkable degree in the past several decades, and the successful farmer and stockman of today is the one who studies land conditions, pays attention to crop rotation, breeds his stock in a scientific manner and brings into the operation of his property the latest power farming machinery. Such a progressive farmer and stockman of Butler county is John Michael, the operator of 125 acres of excellent land in Union township. Mr. Michael was born in this township, February 28, 1864, a son of Daniel and Mary (Snyder) Michael, the former a native of Montgomery county, Ohio, and the latter of Cincinnati. The father of Mr. Michael was left an orphan when a small boy, and was reared in the home of a family named Ross, at Cincinnati. When he was a young man he moved into Butler county and started farming as a renter on the property of his father-in-law, but later purchased seventy-two acres, which continued to be the scene of his activity until his death. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Charles, Jennie, John and one who died in infancy. John Michael, after attending the local public schools, went to Cincinnati and pursued a course in a business college, following which he returned to his home and became associated with his father in the cultivation of the home property. At the time of his marriage he rented a tract of seventy-two acres, a part of the home farm, continuing on this until the time of his father's death, when he bought sixty acres. This has since been increased, through energy and industry, to 125 acres, and in addition Mr. Michael rents sixty-five acres. He has, at times, farmed as high as 200 acres, and is a large corn grower, although he feeds all of his corn to his stock. He milks twenty-five cows, all high grade Holsteins, and is accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of his township and one who is steadily forging ahead. His business record is excellent, he has every reason to be proud of what he has accomplished, and his neighbors and associates respect and honor him as an honest, reliable citizen. A Republican in politics, he is not interested in public affairs, save as a good citizen, but has served two years as township clerk, an office in which he rendered excellent service. As a voter, he supports Republican candidates and principles. Mr. Michaels married Miss Rosa Stephenson, and they have four children: Clyde, George, Edward and Althea, the first-named of whom is married and lives in Columbus, Ohio, and is a salesman.

Jacob Milders, proprietor of Milders Inn, at Symmes Corner, Butler county, has proved most successful and popular in catering to an appreciative patronage, which includes many of the automobile tourists who pass through this village, as well as others who come for the express purpose of partaking of the fine dinners set

forth at the attractive cafe of Mr. Milders, whose wife is his efficient and equally popular coadjutor in the enterprise. Mr. Milders was born in Butler county, Ohio, March 25, 1869, and is a son of Peter and Margaret (Rupp) Milders, the former of whom was born in Holland and the latter of whom was born in the United States. Peter Milders was reared and educated in his native land and was a young man when he came to Ohio and established his residence in the city of Hamilton, where he engaged in the bakery business, on Ludlow street. He was a man of broad views and marked intelligence, and the versatility of his talent soon came into evidence. After having conducted his bakery for some time he purchased a small newspaper plant at Hamilton, where for a brief interval he figured as editor and publisher of a weekly newspaper. At Hamilton he became the owner of the building now occupied by the Holbrock shoe store, and in this building he operated a bakery during the period of the Civil war. He was one of the representative business men and valued and honored citizens of Hamilton, and he left on the community at his death the impress of a worthy and useful life. Of the children of Peter and Margaret Milders the names are here given: Kate, Mrs. Andrew Seibald; Mary, Mrs. George W. Schuler; Elizabeth, Mrs. George Burkhart; Lena, Mrs. Andrew Graf; Magdalene, Mrs. William B. Meyer; John, deceased; Peter C. Schuler Sohngen, son of Richard and Maggie (Schuler) Sohngen and grandson of Mrs. Mary (Milders) Schuler, was one of the gallant young men who represented Butler county in the Nation's military service during the late World war. Jacob Milders, the immediate subject of this review, acquired his early education in the public schools of Hamilton, and as a youth he turned his attention to the newspaper business. For seventeen years he held the position of circulation manager of the Hamilton Journal, prior to which he was for two years in the United States mail service. Subsequently he promoted the organization of the Hamilton baseball park, in the ownership of which he held the controlling interest, as did he also in the Hamilton baseball club, which made an excellent record during the period of his connection with its management. This association on his part covered a period of a quarter of a century, and in later years he has not appreciably abated his interest in the "national game." Mr. Milders gained prestige as one of the most vital and efficient promoters of civic and material progress in Hamilton, where he served five years as a member of the board of education and where he was the chief factor in the promotion and construction of a large public assembly building known as the coliseum, this structure having been destroyed in the great flood of 1913. At one time Mr. Milders owned and conducted two novelty stores at Hamilton, and at all times he was an influential and popular figure in the representative business and social life of the city. Finally he established the Milders Inn, at Symmes Corner, and this has become known as one of the best and most popular cafes in this part of Ohio, its admirable service, together with the personal popularity of its owner, drawing to it a representative supporting patronage from Cincinnati, Hamilton and other cities in the vicinity, as well as of

those making automobile tours through Butler county. The chicken dinners of the Milders Inn have a reputation that far transcends local limitations, and Mr. and Mrs. Milders find pleasure as well as profit in catering to their many patrons. The year 1891 recorded the marriage of Mr. Milders to Miss Mary A. Doellman, daughter of Frank and Anna (Heet) Doellman, well-known citizens of Hamilton, Mrs. Milders being the eldest in a family of eleven children, and the names of the others being here recorded: Henry, deceased; Edward, Frank, Louis, deceased; William, Carl, Leo, Theresa, Anna, Mrs. Luther Parker; and Lulu, deceased. Leo Doellman was in the nation's military service during the World war. Mr. and Mrs. Milders have two children, Helen and Raymond. After having been graduated in the Hamilton high school and the Hamilton Business college, Miss Helen Milders became stenographer in the office of James W. See, of Hamilton, and later she was given the position of assistant secretary of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, of which post she is still the efficient and popular incumbent. She was influential in the food-conservation movement during the late war period, and was secretary of the Butler County Fuel Administration committee for several months and took part in all Liberty loan and Red Cross drives. Raymond Milders was graduated in the Hamilton High school, as a member of the class of 1919, and is now a student in Miami university. It should be stated that Mr. and Mrs. Milders were notably patriotic and loyal in their support of the various war drives for the sale of government war bonds, savings stamps, etc., as well as in the support of the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Salvation Army and other agencies that aided materially in upholding American prestige during the climacteric era of the war. Mr. Milders is a Democrat in his political allegiance and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Tribe of Ben Hur, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. At Symmes Corner he is the owner of a tract of eight acres, aside from that on which his inn is established, and the products from this land add to the popularity of the service of his cafe.

William E. Miles. During the period of his connection with the Middletown plant of the American Rolling mill, William E. Miles has established an excellent record for faithful and efficient service and for friendships gained and maintained. A thorough master of his vocation, he has contributed with his fellow-workmen to the marvelous success of the company whose representative he is, and at the same time has shown his integrity and probity in private life and his fidelity in friendships. Mr. Miles was born at Roanoke City, Va., September 25, 1871, a son of Nicodemus Henry and Amanda (Neighbors) Miles. His parents, who reside at Muncie, Ind., where they are well known and highly respected, have the following eight children: William E., of this notice; Louella Montrey, who is the wife of Burton Barnes, of Toledo; Lillian Catherine, who married Melvin Williams, of the same city; Lulu, who is Mrs. Bob Vaughn, of Toledo; Miss Della Virginia, who is a resident of Muncie, Ind.; Joseph Walter, whose home is at Danville, Ill.; Andrew Russell, a resident of Gary, Ind.; and Blanche, the wife of Charles Aleshire, of

RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM MILES, MIDDLETOWN

ALBERT C. MILLER AND FAMILY

Geneva, Ind. The educational training of William E. Miles was secured in the public schools of Roanoke City, Va., and there he also secured the rudimentary knowledge of his chosen vocation. For a number of years he was variously employed in rolling mills in different parts of the country until finally coming to Middletown, where he has since been in the service of the American Rolling mill, in the capacity of roller. Through his long and faithful service he has shown himself to be an employee to be relied upon and implicit faith is placed in his work, a confidence that has always been vindicated. Mr. Miles was married July 4, 1894, at Muncie, Ind., to Miss Emma Alice Danner, who was born December 14, 1871, daughter of Thomas J. and Charlotte Jemima (George) Danner. Mrs. Miles is the sister of Samuel O. Danner of Middletown, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He married Miss Daisy Langston of Muncie, Ind. William Arthur Danner, also of Middletown, and who married Miss Anna Shockley of Muncie, Ind., is another brother of Mrs. Miles, as is also John G. Danner, of Middletown, and is the husband of Miss Anna Miller of Muncie, Ind. The sisters of Mrs. Miles are Rosa and Malvina. Rosa is the wife of Albert Bailey of Middletown; Malvina married J. F. Watkins of Muncie, Ind. Mr. Watkins was in the employ of the American Rolling Mills and was what was termed one of the fifteen-year men. He died November 28, 1918. Mrs. Miles' parents are still living and residents of Muncie, Ind. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Miles: Walter E., who died aged one month and twenty-seven days; and Glenn E Glenn E. Miles was born December 31, 1896, at Muncie, Ind., and in June, 1916, graduated from the Middletown high school. At that time he began work in the American Rolling mill, but subsequently entered the service of the United States Army and for seven months was stationed at Camp Taylor. When he received his honorable discharge he resumed his former position at the mill, and at this time is his father's helper. Both he and his father are liberal in their political views, preferring their own choice of candidates to those chosen strictly along party lines. Both are members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers, and the elder man is a member of the Knights of Pythias, while the younger holds membership in the Benevolent Order of Elks. The family belongs to the Christian church and its members have been identified with progressive and constructive measures, either educational, religious or civic in character. The attractive home of the Miles family is located on Linden avenue.

Albert C. Miller. A progressive representative of the agricultural interests of Butler county is found in the person of Albert C. Miller, who is the owner of a well-improved property located on the Franklin road. Mr. Miller's entire career has been passed amid an agricultural atmosphere save for the short period of eighteen months, and the modern methods which have brought him success have been mastered through a long number of years of experience and practical training. Mr. Miller was born at Miamisburg, Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1867, a son of Charles L. and Louise (Knecht) Miller, natives of Germany, and a grandson of Daniel

Miller. The Miller family came to the United States in 1830, settling near Miamisburg, and in that community Charles L. Miller grew to manhood and engaged in farming. He continued as a tiller of the soil throughout his life, and died on his property in 1903, being still survived by his widow. Albert C. Miller received a district school education, and was brought up as a farmer's son. On attaining years of maturity, he chose farming as his own life's vocation, and, as noted, has continued to follow this line of endeavor with the exception of eighteen months. He carries on mixed farming, on his fifty-one acre tract, located on the Franklin road, not far from Middletown, a property which has been made generously productive through the use of skilled methods of treating the soil. The improvements are attractive and the buildings commodious, and in his neighborhood Mr. Miller is accounted one of the well-to-do and substantial agriculturists of the community. He is a Democrat, but has not interested himself actively in politics, save as a voter and supporter of good men and constructive measures. With his family he belongs to the Lutheran church at Middletown. Mr. Miller was married February 27, 1894, to Barbara, daughter of Leonard and Catherine Schell. Mrs. Miller was born in Germany and was still a young woman when alone she made the journey to, and having a brother in Middletown, she made her home with him, November 25, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of two children: Mary Louise and Carroll F.

Alexander Miller. The career of the late Alexander Miller belongs to the past rather than to the present of Butler county, for more than thirty years have passed since this honored citizen's death. Mr. Miller was born on a farm in Union township, Butler county, December 10, 1848, a son of William and Mary (Cummings) Miller, both also natives of this county, where the father, a lifelong farmer, was honored by election as county commissioner during the early days and wielded a strong influence for good among the pioneer residents. There were four children in the family: Mattie, Alexander, Ross and John. Alexander Miller was given a public school education and received his agricultural instruction under his father. When he was twenty-one years of age he broke home ties and embarked upon a career of his own, eventually becoming the owner of a farm of 103 acres, which he operated with success until the time of his demise. He was an industrious man, of practical ideas, and in the community in which he resided he was recognized as a man of honor, a farmer of ability, and a citizen of public spirit and high ideals, and his death, which occurred August 17, 1887, caused much sorrow among a wide circle of friends. Mr. Miller married Fannie, daughter of William and Rachel (Seward) Garris. Mr. Garris, who was born near Lancaster, Pa., was but eleven years of age when brought to Ohio by his parents, and when a young man removed from Hamilton county to Butler county, where he passed the rest of his life as a farmer. He had only one child, Fannie. The only son and child of Alexander and Fannie (Garris) Miller, W. Harry Miller, is one of the energetic farmers of Union township. He was educated in the public schools, and after leaving high school

began farming operations with his father, at whose death he assumed management of the home place, which he has since conducted. He has the entire 103 acres under a high state of cultivation, and in addition to carrying on general farming has met with success in the dairy line, and now milks fourteen cows. Like his father, he is accounted one of his community's stable citizens and can be depended upon to support all worthy measures. He has served acceptably as a member of the board of school directors of his community, and in politics is a Democrat with independent inclinations. As a fraternalist, he has passed through the chairs of the Knights of Pythias, and his religious affiliation is with the West Chester Presbyterian church. In 1891, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Clara, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Gould) Vail, and to them have been born three children: Alexander, William Marion and Naomi.

Charles E. Miller, who has been a resident of Middletown, Butler county, from the days of his boyhood, was a youth when he accepted a minor position in the employ of the Middletown Machine company, and by his energy, technical and executive ability and sterling character he continued to make consecutive advancement in connection with the affairs of this important industrial corporation until he became president of the same, after thirty-four years of continuous and efficient service. He is today not only one of the representative business men of Middletown, but is also one of the most liberal and public-spirited of its citizens—one who has been especially influential in advancing its civic and material progress and prosperity. Charles E. Miller was born at Hamilton, Ohio, November 8, 1861, and is a son of Theobald and Sarah (West) Miller, the former of whom, after a long career of signal honor and usefulness, was summoned to the life eternal, on July 14, 1907, at Middletown, where his venerable widow still resides, she being a representative of a colonial American family of English origin and a direct descendant of that historic character, John Rolfe. The subject of this review was a boy at the time of his parents' removal from Hamilton to Middletown, in which latter city he continued his studies in the public schools until his graduation in the high school, as a member of the class of 1878. Thereafter he was for several years a student in the University of Ohio, and after leaving this institution he accepted a position in the employ of the Middletown Machine company of which he is now the executive head. With this company he rose step by step and developed to the fullest degree his exceptional mechanical genius—which, indeed, might well be termed the genius of his substantial success. He has been a resourceful force in the development of the large and prosperous business of the company of which he is now the president, and his business loyalty has been equaled by that which he has shown as a citizen. For many years he has been active and influential in public affairs at Middletown, where he was a member of the city council at a time when some of the most important issues in the city's history were under consideration. He has always been the staunch advocate of progressive municipal policies and has given his influence and co-operation in the furtherance of many enterprises and measures that have in-

ured greatly to the prosperity and prestige of his home city. He is not formally identified with any religious organization but is liberal in support of all denominational church activities. In politics, with well fortified convictions, he is found aligned as a staunch advocate and supporter of the cause of the Republican party. A man who has done and is doing a man's work in the world, and who represents in his makeup the sterling traits that make for ideal citizenship, Mr. Miller has a secure place in the confidence and good-will of all who know him—especially the people of Middletown. He and his family occupy the beautiful old homestead that was erected for his father, on Reynolds street, and a revered member of the family circle is his venerable and gracious mother, who is loved by all who have come within the compass of her gentle influence. In the year 1886 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Miller to Miss Margaret J. Stein, who was born in Pennsylvania and reared in Middletown, Ohio, and who is a daughter of John and Anna (Schliecher) Stein. She is the popular chatelaine of the beautiful old family home, which under her regime has been notable for its generous and unassuming hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have two sons, Dr. Charles L., who is engaged in the practice of his profession at Middletown, as one of the representative physicians and surgeons of his native county, and Herbert S., who is his father's able and valued coadjutor, as the incumbent of the position of vice-president of the Middletown Machine company. Dr. Charles L. Miller was graduated in the Middletown High school and thereafter he entered the Cincinnati Medical college, in which he was duly graduated, with the degree of M. D. For a number of years thereafter he was engaged in practice in Cincinnati, and recently he returned to his native city, where he has already built up a substantial and representative professional business. He married Miss Eleanor Hoffman, of Cincinnati, and they have as the principal joy-giver of their home their winsome little daughter, Dorothy.

Charles E. Miller. For more than twenty years the business established at No. 20 S. Second street by Charles E. Miller, in 1899, and since his death conducted by his widow, Mrs. Minnie Miller, has been one of the well-patronized cafes of Hamilton, which is made attractive through the strict observance of cleanliness, the courtesy of the proprietress, moderation in prices and good quality of products. Charles E. Miller was a native son of Hamilton, his parents being Jacob and Mary Miller, both deceased. Jacob Miller was a gardener, and he and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom five survive. Charles E. Miller was given a graded school education at Hamilton, and was variously employed until 1899, in which year he embarked in the cafe business at No. 20 S. Second street. His long residence within the boundaries of the city, and his connection with a stable business enterprise, gave him a wide acquaintance and materially contributed to the maintenance of a large and lucrative business, with which he was connected until his death in 1915. Mr. Miller was married in 1896 to Minnie, daughter of George and Amelia Morner, early settlers of Butler county, and to this union there were born three children: Lillian W., Edward M.

and Ross L., who reside with their widowed mother at No. 610 S. Second street. Mr. Miller was a member of the following fraternal orders: Eagles, Moose, and Monkeys, and belonged likewise to the Mutual Aid society and Walnut Aid society. The business which he established is still being conducted by his widow, a woman of marked business ability and unusual accomplishments. Her stock consists of soft drinks, near beer and lunches, and she is enjoying an excellent patronage, built up through her energy, courtesy and good management, as well as by the excellent quality of the goods sold. She has many friends in the city in which she has passed her entire life.

Horace O. Miller, who occupies the responsible position of director of purchases of the American Rolling Mill company, of Middletown, is another of the men connected with this great industry who has been the architect of his own fortune. In his youth he was granted only ordinary advantages and had no aiding influences to make the way easy for him in his upward climb. What he has accomplished has come as a direct result of his own ability and industry, and his success is therefore all the more commendable as well as satisfying. Mr. Miller was born at Goshen, Clermont county, Ohio, December 9, 1879, a son of Henry and Maria L. (Akley) Miller. His father was descended from a European family which came to the United States many years ago, and his death occurred at Goshen, Ohio, April 3, 1918. The Akley family, members of which fought as soldiers during the Revolutionary war, came from Lancaster county, Pa., and settled near Milford, Ohio, where Mrs. Miller was born. She still survives and resides with her son at Middletown. There were three sons in the family: Jesse and Horace O., of Middletown; and Rev. Frank, a Methodist minister in the Southwestern Ohio Conference. Horace O. Miller was educated in the public schools of Goshen, Ohio, after leaving which he secured a position in the office of the Union Central Life Insurance company, Cincinnati, where he spent several years. Next he came to Middletown to accept the position of private secretary to George M. Verity, president of the American Rolling mill, an office which he filled creditably for a number of years. He was then promoted to the post of director of purchases, and this he occupies today. Mr. Miller takes an active part in the work of the local Y. M. C. A., is an Elk and a Mason, and in politics votes and supports the Republican ticket. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. He has a number of pleasant social connections, and is the owner of a beautiful home on South Main street. June 19, 1907, Mr. Miller married Ada Bell, daughter of Clement C. and Jennie (Bell) Bateman, of Washington Court House, Ohio. Mrs. Miller is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her great-great-great-grandfather, William Bell, sr., was born in Scotland and emigrated to the United States in 1757, and his son, William Bell, jr., was born in Delaware, May 28, 1761. As a child he removed with his parents to New Jersey, and during the War of the Revolution served two enlistments, as a private in Capt. Silas Howell's Company, First New Jersey Regiment, commanded by Col. Mathias

Ogden. In 1784 William Bell, jr., married Mary Brady and in 1790 they removed with their children to Philadelphia, in 1794 to Culpeper, Va., and in 1798 to Greenfield, Highland county, Ohio. Ohio was at that time still a territory, and William Bell, jr., was the first white man buried in his community, where his descendants still reside. He had three sons: Joseph, who served in Capt. Watson Douglass' detachment of Col. William Key's Regiment of Ohio Militia in the War of 1812; Josiah, and Charles, who served in Captain Jones' Company in the same struggle. Mrs. Miller's great-grandfather, Frederick Backenstowe, fought as a soldier during the Mexican war, and her grandfather, Capt. John M. Bell, son of Joseph Bell, organized a company for the Civil war, in which struggle he met a soldier's death in battle. Clement C. Bateman, father of Mrs. Miller, was born at West Liberty, Ohio, March 4, 1850, and died August 24, 1910, and his wife was born in Washington Court House, Fayette county, Ohio, and died December 2, 1913. They had two children: Mrs. Miller, of this review; and her elder brother, Frank M. Bateman, one of the best-beloved residents of Middletown, and a valued employee of the American Rolling Mill company, was a soldier in the Spanish American war. He died March 6, 1919. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller there have been born two children: Sara Elizabeth, who is deceased; and Richard Bateman, born March 2, 1910, an exceedingly bright young lad who is attending the graded schools.

J. Lowry Miller. J. Lowry Miller, of Butler county, for some years a popular educator, but now extensively and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Lemon township, was born near Georgetown, Brown county, O., a son of Alfonzo and Angeline (Bolender) Miller, and grandson of Joseph Bolender. His father, a resident of Brown county during his entire career, was a teacher for a number of years, and maintained his interest in educational matters throughout his life, contributing generously to projects pertaining to the advancement of the public schools. He was also active in the work of the Presbyterian church, quite influential in the Republican party in his community. He and his wife were the parents of three children: J. Lowry, of this review; Clyde, who is engaged in farming in Brown county; and Clarence, who is carrying on operations on the old home place. J. Lowry Miller attended the graded and high schools of Felicity, and in order to perfect himself in the profession of teaching, entered the Wooster university, from which he did not graduate, leaving it in 1904. During the two years that followed he taught at Russellville, was then located at Fayetteville for three years, and at Monroe for a like period, and became one of the most popular and efficient teachers in his section. He was accounted an excellent teacher, who had the faculty of being able to readily impart his own knowledge to others, and thereby mould the plastic mind of youth in a fitting and beneficial manner. Agricultural matters began to interest him, however, and in 1913 he settled on the old Dunn farm, in section 26, Lemon township, and here his success has been very satisfying. In addition to his general farming operations, he is a breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs, and raises Buff Orpington chickens. Although he has not resided long in Butler

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MILLER

county, he has become well known and has made many friends and is counted one of the most public-spirited citizens in his community He has accomplished good work as a member of the Public Welfare committee, is a master of his Grange, secretary of the Middletown Milk Dealers' association, and is also a valued member of the Middletown Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Miller's religious connection is with the United Presbyterian church and he has been active in church work and in politics is a staunch Republican. In 1903 Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Beulah Davis, of Russellville, O., and to this union three children have been born: Muriel Elizabeth, Helen Leona, and May Catherine. While the love of home predominates, Mr. Miller enjoys the companionship of his fellows, in being a popular member of Masonic Blue Lodge No. 103, at Felicity, Ohio.

John S. Miller. One of the old and highly honored agriculturists of Hanover township, Butler county, who has been a participant for the last thirty years in the active life and consistent development of this section of the great Miami valley, is John S. Miller, who is still carrying on successful farming and stock raising operations on the old Fulkerson place. He was born in Fairfield township, this county, October 26, 1849, a son of William H. H. Miller, who was born in Springfield township, Hamilton county, Ohio, December 15, 1814, and a grandson of Samuel Miller, a native of New Jersey. Samuel Miller was among the early settlers of Butler county, locating in Fairfield township, six miles from Hamilton, where in addition to the vocation of farming, he plied industriously his trade of stone mason, and during the early days was called upon to construct many of the stone chimneys which graced the homes of the pioneers. In 1844, W. H. H. married Jenette Brown, who came from Scotland to the United States in 1831 with her parents and a colony comprising forty others, being eight weeks and four days on the Atlantic before making port at New York. In 1810 the Browns came to Cincinnati and secured 100 acres of land in Fairfield township. Soon after his marriage to Miss Brown, Samuel Miller settled on the farm which continued to be their home until their deaths. They were the parents of three sons and one daughter, of whom the daughter died in infancy, the sons being Clark, who was a farmer at Symmes Corner, Ohio, where he died; William H. H.; and Levy, who was a farmer in Fairfield township, where his death occurred. William H. H. Miller had little chances for an educational training in his youth, as he was still a boy when he was bound out to a farmer named Archibald Martin. When he attained manhood and entered upon a career of his own he located in Fairfield township, where he took up farming, and there made his home until 1880, when he sold his farm and located in Hanover township, buying 255 acres on which he made many improvements. There his death occurred, April 10, 1887. He was a Republican in his political allegiance, and was a faithful member of the United Brethren church, to which also belonged his wife, who was born in Scotland, July 12, 1820, and died March 7, 1901. They were the parents of six children: Mary Isabelle, born March 2, 1846, married H. B. Joseph, of Cincinnati, where

she died September 10, 1918; John S., of this notice; William C., born April 28, 1852, a resident of Reily township, Butler county; Helen M., born September 23, 1855, married J. R. Fulkerson of Hanover township, and died September 10, 1918; Sarah J., born June 2, 1858, who married John Q. Brate, of Union township; and Nettie, born November 20, 1861, residing in Reily township. The education of John S. Miller was acquired at the public school at Jones station, where there were 120 pupils under one teacher. He was reared as a farmer and remained at home until attaining the age of nearly thirty-five. On February 19, 1884, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Fulkerson, a native of Milford township, Butler county, and a daughter of James R. and Kate (Bennett) Fulkerson. James R. Fulkerson was born in 1833, at Hamilton, Ohio, a son of Epperson Fulkerson, a hat manufacturer of that place, who was also the owner of farms in Milford and Hanover townships. At the age of twenty years, James R. Fulkerson took up farming in Milford township, but in 1868 moved to Hanover township, where he died in August, 1913. His wife, whose parents were natives of Ireland, died in 1880, and Mary Ann was the only child born to them. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller there were born four children: Bertha A., born in Hamilton county, August 30, 1886, wife of Alvin Decker of Reily township; William R., born February 4, 1889, a farmer of Hanover township, married January 31, 1918, Sadie Campbell, daughter of William and Lydia Campbell, farming people of Hanover township; Catherine, who resides with her father; and Charles B., twin of Catherine, a farmer of Union township, married Anna Wright and has a daughter, Orveda. The mother of these children died December 13, 1900. After marriage, John S. Miller made his home in Springfield township, Hamilton county, for six years, and then moved to the old Fulkerson place in Hanover township, Butler county, where he has 108 acres of land under a high state of cultivation. He raises Duroc Jersey Red hogs and Belgian horses and does a general farming business, and through his good management and modern application of methods has won his way to a comfortable position in life and to high standing in his community. He is a Republican in politics, takes an intelligent interest in all important topics and worth-while movements of the day, and during the past fifteen years has been a member of the Butler County Agricultural board. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, at Darrtown, in which he has numerous friends, as he has also wherever he has come into contact with his fellow-men.

R. I. Miller, who is favorably known as the proprietor of a well-equipped and profitable furniture and undertaking establishment at College Corner, belongs to that class of citizens who have worked out their own success. While he came into a business already established, he has furnished the industry which has built the establishment up to its present proportions and importance. Mr. Miller was born on a farm two and one-half miles west of College Corner, in Union county, Ind., a son of W. C. and Nancy (Ridenour) Miller. His father was for a number of years a well-respected farmer of that county, and then, in middle life, moved to the village of College

Corner, where he established himself in business as an undertaker and funeral director. After he had completed his education in the public schools, R. I. Miller joined his father in this business and continued in association with the elder man until the latter's death, at which time he succeeded him as sole proprietor. Under his management there has been added to the business a full line of furniture, carpets and rugs, and in addition Mr. Miller carries pianos and has the local agency for the Edison, Pathe and Brunswick talking machines, and his business is an excellent one. As a citizen Mr. Miller is also held in high esteem, and has, during his career, served as town treasurer of the Indiana side of College Corner. He is a Republican and wields some influence in his party, and he and his estimable wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Miller married Mary, daughter of T. B. Barkley, of Oxford, who retired after many years spent in agricultural pursuits in Butler county, and to this union there were born two children: Harold, born in 1903, who is attending high school; and Thomas S., born in 1911, a student of the graded schools.

Dan Millikin, M. D. In the heyday of existence, when an individual is achieving success beyond his contemporaries and winning prosperity and applause, public honors and private adulation, his compelling personality may have much to do with influencing opinion, but, after he has passed from the scene of life, and his deeds, his triumphs, his failures and successes are viewed with the cold and unbiased criticism that posterity accords even its highest and greatest, his true character stands forth and his measure of usefulness to mankind is clearly revealed. The student of history and biography knows full well how often this acid test brings only disappointment. When, then, a community can point proudly to a man the records of whose daily life disclosed true nobility, how valuable, how interesting is the story and how farreaching may be its influence. To the memory of such a man, Dr. Dan Millikin, Hamilton pays tribute. In compiling a biography of such a man as Doctor Millikin, it will be the object of this all too inadequate sketch to trace the origin and progress of a rare personal career, briefly to present the life of an eminent citizen as it has been seen by the mass of unprofessional people among whom it was spent, to note the high professional honors which it has received, and to indicate some of the studies which engaged the thought of a great man. Dr. Dan Millikin was born April 17, 1845, in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, youngest of the six children of Major John M. and Mary G. (Hough) Millikin. In tracing the genealogy of the family of which he was a member, seven different ways of spelling the name have been common, viz.: Milliken, Millikan, Milligan, Mulliken, Mullikin, Millican and Millikin. The family is of Scotch-Irish origin, and the earliest families of the name known to have settled in the American Colonies came to Maryland in the train of Lord Baltimore, from whom their land grants were extensive. Many of the name fought in the War of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and during the war with Mexico several Millikins served under Gen. Winfield Scott. The family was represented by more men in the Union and

Confederate armies during the Civil war than any other in the country, more than 100 soldiers bearing the name having borne arms in the great struggle. In tracing the direct ancestry of Doctor Millikin, we are taken back to Dormore, County Down, province of Ulster, in the North of Ireland, which was the cradle town of many Millikins and Millikins. James Millikin (1), born in 1727, died at Dormore, April 17, 1789. He married Martha Hemphill, born in 1729, died May 12, 1800, and they had nine children: James, William, John, Mary, David, Martha, Samuel, Nancy and Robert. James (2), son of James and Martha (Hemphill) Millikin, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, January 27, 1752, and married March 31, 1778, Dolly McFarland, born June 6, 1762. In 1771 he came to America and settled on Ten Mile Creek, Amwell township, Washington county, Pa., and died July 30, 1821. He and his wife had eleven children, among whom was Daniel Millikin (1) their eldest son, who was born in the Washington county home, February 4, 1779. He married December 31, 1801, Joan Minor, of a staunch New England family which had come to the Colonies soon after the arrival of the Mayflower. When eighteen years of age Daniel Millikin was sent by his parents to Jefferson college, Canonsburg, Washington county, Pa., where he remained over a year devoting some time to the study of languages preparatory to the study of medicine. He then began a course under Dr. James Bell, of Greensboro, Pa., and commenced practice at his early home, but removed later by way of the Monongahela to Cincinnati by flatboat, and reached Hamilton, May 7, 1807. He was the earliest permanent practitioner at Hamilton, and "Old Doctor Dan" became widely known and greatly beloved all over the countryside. He was a surgeon in the regiment of Colonel Mills during the War of 1812 and for a time was acting quartermaster. He served as a trustee of Miami university for many years, and in 1816 was a member of the House of Representatives. He was likewise a major-general of the Third Division of State Militia, and served as associate judge (or wooden head) of the common pleas for three terms. He died at Hamilton, November 3, 1849, the father of twelve children, of whom four were by his second wife, Ellen Curry, who survived him. John Minor Millikin, second son of Daniel Millikin, was born in Washington county, Pa., October 14, 1804, and came to Hamilton with his father as a child. He married September 6, 1831, Mary G., only daughter of Joseph and Jane (Hunter) Hough. After being instructed by Doctor Proudfit, of Hamilton, Maj. John M. Millikin returned to his birthplace in 1824 and entered Washington college. He subsequently studied law with Jesse Corwin, of Hamilton, and was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1827. At that time he formed a partnership with William Bebb, who afterward became governor of the state; but this relation was dissolved in 1844 and Mr. Millikin retired to his farm, three miles east of Hamilton, to recruit his health. He did not return to legal practice but became much interested in agriculture, contributing many able papers to the farm journals. For many years his farm was a model one; in 1846 he was a member of the State Board of Equalization; and in 1856 was made a member of the State Board

of Agriculture, and was twice re-elected, being president of the board one year. In 1860 he was appointed a trustee of Miami university, a capacity in which he served until his death, and in 1873 was named one of the commissioners to make a treaty with the Creek Indians. In 1876-77 he was state treasurer. His death occurred April 9, 1884. Major Millikin was the father of six children: Joseph Hough, born July 5, 1832, died October 3, 1838; Col. Minor M., born July 9, 1834, was killed at the battle of Stone River, December 31, 1862; Mary Jane, born January 29, 1837, died September 23, 1838; Joseph, born January 28, 1840, died November 4, 1883; Mary Ella, born March 19, 1843, died October 17, 1870; and Dan. The boyhood and youth of Dr. Dan Millikin were passed at his father's country home, where he was surrounded by all that a cultured home could give. His natural love of learning inclining him to employ his leisure moments profitably, he gained in his youth a fund of knowledge not often acquired by boys of his age. As a little lad, with his pony and books, he would spend whole days in the woods surrounding his home, acquiring a thorough acquaintance with nature. He knew at an early age every tree and shrub that grew and his knowledge of the birds and insects was a marvel to everyone. The studious habits of childhood remained with him throughout life and he ever considered a day wasted in which he did not accomplish some reading and study. After graduating in 1862 from the local high school, in 1863-66, he was a student in the Sheffield school of Yale college. During this time, as an ardent supporter of the cause of the Union and ever earnest in its uplift and upholding, he served for a brief period as a member of the "Squirrel Hunters" in the dark days of the Civil war. After his marriage, at the age of twenty-one years, he settled down on his father's farm, where he did horticultural work and passed his leisure time in study and writing. During the summer of 1873, the year of the Greeley campaign, while on a visit with his family at Minneapolis, Dr. Millikin contributed many editorials to the Minneapolis Times, a paper devoted to Horace Greeley, and edited by Pliny Bartlett, formerly of Hamilton. The journalistic fever was now very strong with him; life on the farm hardly afforded the opportunities desired, and he sought a larger sphere. It was a choice between journalism, law and medicine, and he chose the last-named. After graduating with honor in 1875, from the Miami Medical college of Cincinnati, he began the actual practice of his calling at the age of twenty-nine years, and rapidly acquired a large, lucrative and important professional business. His devotion to his work was unflagging, while his success came as the result of his ability and assiduous application. He taught in his alma mater, Miami Medical college, from 1884, first holding the chair of Medical Chemistry, then of Materia Medica and Therapeutics and finally the chair of Medical Jurisprudence. He was elected to the presidency of the Ohio State Medical society in 1895-96, was a member of the American, Union District, and Butler County medical societies, and from December 31, 1906, until December 31, 1913, was president of the board of education, and was a strong governing force in placing the public schools of Hamilton

upon the high plane they occupy today. A profound student of the Ohio profession, widely read on topics of the times and in a wide range of literature, scientific, economical and medical, his services were much in demand as a contributor to literary and scientific journals and his lectures were of the utmost interest. He was not only a man of science and high professional attainments, but a man of letters, having a recondite knowledge along general lines of thought. He was a prolific writer of pedagogics, especially along physiological lines, and delivered many addresses on that and kindred subjects. He contributed the sketch of Butler county in "Butler County Art Work," a publication issued at Chicago, likewise wrote an article for the Centennial Souvenir Book of Hamilton, on the literary men of the city, and his many papers on medical subjects were made doubly attractive by his rare and pleasing literary style. Doctor Millikin was appointed a trustee of Miami university by President McKinley, then governor of Ohio.

For many years, up to the time of his death, Dr. Millikin was a member of the State Forestry Board, and shortly after his marriage wrote a prize essay on the preservation of the forests, which was published by the state. He read a paper, "The Ruin of the Hills," at the meeting of the Ohio State Forestry association at Columbus, January 15, 1888, which was published. "Doctor Dan" possessed one of the finest private libraries on literary and scientific subjects in the state. But it was not so much for his great professional ability and brilliant attainments that he was so well loved, as it was for his fine personality, his splendid and manly charm of character, his forcefulness and geniality, his cheerfulness and good humor, his willingness at all times to lend himself to the cause of charity and to the advancement of all that tended to make men happier and conditions better. For years he took part in local entertainments and with a dominant personality he left an impression on the community. Many essays, addresses, plays, fiction and some narrative poems have accumulated, some of which may be published eventually. Many of these were unfinished, as he had the faculty of speaking from few notes. As an impromptu speaker he had few equals. No better idea of the genial and kindly nature of the Doctor can be given than that expressed in his own cheery words: "I train with young people for the most part, and I trust that the new crop of ten-year-olds will love me when we are all ten years older." In this connection a contemporary writer said: "The name of Dr. Dan Millikin stands for many things. We think of him as the man of many gifts —physician, lecturer, writer and a walking encyclopedia to whom the whole town might turn for knowledge upon any subject, and, busy man that he was, he always took time to give the needed information, even to the humblest inquirer. Yet, neither as scientist, lecturer or scholar will Doctor Dan be remembered best by some of us—but in a much humbler role—as 'Gankie' the mender of dolls and toys. The childish lips which found 'Grandpa' too long and dignified a name, so shortened it in comradeship to 'Gankie'—christened the Doctor for all time with his most beloved title. It was always to 'Gankie' that the broken toys were brought. Dr.

Dan Millikin possessed a mental attitude which was 'sublimely gracious.' He had no grievance with his Maker—he accepted life and found it good. Having a truly poetic nature, he was a genuine worshiper of all beauty, but the soul of the man drew back from the commercial side of life. He was generous almost to a fault; never pushed a creditor; yet the world is richer for the cheer, jovial warmth and humor which his life poured into it; while the poetic fancies of his brain as well as his exact technical knowledge have added to the sum-total of the world's culture. He was so versatile in his talents and skilled in so many directions that he will always be remembered as a man of brilliant attainments, an honor to the State of Ohio; but some few of us will always love best to think of him, just as 'Gankie,' the mender of dolls."

Doctor Millikin lived a full, active and happy life. During the last eighteen months of his earthly existence he was troubled by a pernicious anaemia, of the encroachments of which he was fully aware. He calmly and courageously faced the outcome and when his spirit took its departure, June 5, 1914, his house was in order. His death came as a great and lasting sorrow to many hearts, and the city of Hamilton never has been called upon to mourn the loss of a distinguished citizen whose death occasioned as widespread sorrow. It has been the privilege of but few men in this, or of any other, community to become the center of as wide a circle of personal friends or to attach to themselves, by the indissoluble chains of affectionate esteem, so many men and women of widely varying fortune and social rank. The medical profession, of course, suffered an irreparable loss. Said the Cincinnati Medical News: "It is difficult to refrain from the use of superlatives in speaking of services rendered to the medical profession—indeed, to humanity—by the late Dan Millikin..... The American Medical association, the profession of Ohio and of Hamilton and Cincinnati lose a leading member, science loses a devoted follower, art a cultured patron, literature a valued contributor. The citizens of the entire country lose by his death one who always advocated and fought for the highest ideals of a member of a democratic community." At the time of his death, extended eulogistic editorials appeared in various papers throughout the state, and expressions of sorrow were heard on every side. His alumni association adopted resolutions and a memorial was prepared. Five hundred of the thousands of friends of the departed were at the Memorial meeting held in the new Y. M. C. A., and it was considered peculiarly appropriate that this should be the occasion for the first use of the new building. At this meeting, ex-Governor Campbell, who presided, gave a long and appropriate address in regard to his former friend, and other men prominent in public life and in professional and business circles paid tribute to one whom they felt merited the tribute of truth to truth, and the honor that man pays to nobility in man.

At the age of twenty-one years, Doctor Millikin was married to Amanda, daughter of William and Anna (Jenifer) Hunter, pioneers of Hamilton, the Jenifers being an old family from Baltimore, Md. William Hunter, who was a well-known business man and merchant

of Hamilton, was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., in 1797, and came to Hamilton in 1807. In 1826 he located in Butler county, where in 1835 he was elected country treasurer, and subsequently served as president of the city council of Hamilton. His death occured in 1856. He was part owner of the old grist and flour mill that stood on the site now occupied by the park at the bridge that joins West Hamilton and Hamilton, and which later became known as the Morey mill. William and Anna Hunter had ten children, of whom five grew to maturity. Amanda, the youngest, became Mrs. Millikin. In private life Dr. Dan Millikin was domestic in his tastes, his home life was ideal, and his friends were always welcomed at his home. He and his wife were schoolmates in early life, and he secured in her a companion fully suited to the qualities of his mind and character. To a large degree it was due to her ready sympathy and mental capacities that he was enabled to make for himself so noble a record as a physician and a citizen, and to their children have been transmitted those principles of honor and integrity which they made the rule of their lives. Four children were born to Doctor and Mrs. Millikin: Dr. Mark, who married in 1893, May Beckett, and has six children, Frances, Katheleen, Madeleane, Neil, Ruth and Eleanor; Mary, who married in 1894, Thomas M. Beckett, and has nine children, Nora who died in 1900, Minor Millikin, Alice, Walter, who died in 1901, Lucy, Edith, Emily, William and Dan Millikin; Guy, who died in 1894; and Minor, who died in 1880.

Jere F. Mincher. Compared with some of the biographies appearing in this work, the connection of Jere F. Mincher with the business life of Middletown is of comparatively recent date, but during the period of his stay he has identified himself with interests and movements that have served to make him well known, so that today, probably, he has as wide an acquaintance and as broad an influence as many of much longer residence. Mr. Mincher was born March 12, 1863, at Bilston, Staffordshire, England, a son of Thomas and Lydia (Francies) Mincher. When he was but a child he was taken to Scotland by his parents and there reared, receiving his education in the public schools. In the big steel mills of that country he secured his first employment and received his introduction to the steel industry, and this business has continued to hold his attention ever since. In Scotland, Mr. Mincher plodded steadily along, without receiving much encouragement in the way of appreciation, and eventually, when he had reached the age of thirty-five years, he decided it was best to try his fortunes in some other land. America, of course, with its manifold opportunities, was the first to present itself to his mind, and accordingly, in 1893, he came to this country and first located at Cambridge, Ohio, where he worked in the steel mills. He was not, however, satisfied with being a mere laborer or common workman, he desired something more advanced, and after five years at Cambridge went to Dresden, Ohio, where he was given the opportunity of learning the trade of steel sheet heating. He gladly accepted this chance to better himself, and after completing his trade went to St. Louis, Mo., where he worked at his trade. When he left that city it was to come to Middletown, where he has

JERE F. MINCHER AND FAMILY

since resided and where he has become one of the most trusted and efficient employees of the American Rolling mills. Mr. Mincher is a reliable, finished workman, industrious, skilled and accurate in his work, taking pride in its completeness and quality and giving his best efforts in behalf of his employers. As an integral part of the human machinery which makes possible the operation of the mills he occupies an established position in the community. While still a resident of Great Britain, December 16, 1888, Mr. Mincher was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Morrison, a native of Scotland, and a daughter of John and Christina Morrison. Twelve children have been born to them, of whom three have passed over, the others being: Christina, now Mrs. William Woodall, of San Francisco, Calif.; Lydia, who is now Mrs. Howard Humphrey, of Lebanon; Jessie, who is now Mrs. Thomas McMurray, of Chicago; Thomas, John, Jere, jr., Florence, Isabelle and Josephine. The sons are all employed at the American Rolling mills. During the time that the United States was a participant in the Great war, Mr. Mincher was engaged in governmental work as an inspector connected with the artillery branch of the service. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masons and is active in the work of that order along with his brother lodge members. He is a man of more than ordinary intellectual attainments and interests himself in subjects which call for genuine thought and consideration. His faith in the hereafter has caused him to adopt the religious faith of Spiritualism, a creed to which the members of his family adhere. His political support is given to those who advocate the cause of Socialism in its best and truest sense. The pleasant home of the Mincher family is situated at No. 1217 E. Third street, and there Mr. Mincher's well-known hospitality is given full scope for exercise in the entertainment of his many friends.

William Minton has for a long period been one of the progressive and successful representatives of farm industry in Butler county, where his ideal rural home is situated in Ross township. He has assumed not a little of leadership in community sentiment and action in his native county and has at all times exemplified the liveliest public spirit and civic loyalty. Special interest further attaches to his career by reason of the fact that he is a scion of one of the old and honored families of this favored section of the Buckeye state and that he was one of the gallant young men who went forth from Ohio to do valiant service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. He has made his life count for good in every stage of his career and is a well-known and highly esteemed citizen, who merits a specific tribute in this publication. William Minton was born in Millville, Ross township, Butler county, and is a son of Peter and Hannah (Conklin) Minton, sterling pioneers of whom adequate mention is made on other pages, in the sketch of Henry J. Kumler, who married one of their daughters. He whose name initiates this review was reared to the sturdy discipline of the farm and he has shown his excellent judgment by paying unfaltering allegiance to the basic industry of agriculture during virtually the entire period of his active career. He was a member of the State Militia at the

time of the outbreak of the Civil war, and with his company he was mustered into the Union service, in the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Moore. D. K. Zeller was captain of the company of which Mr. Minton was a member, and the major part of the service of the command was in scouting duty in West Virginia. Mr. Minton had his full share of experience in connection with the hardships and perils marking the progress of the historic conflict between the states of the North and the South, and his military record was one that shall ever reflect credit upon him. He has in these later years vitalized the more gracious memories and associations of his career as a soldier by maintaining active affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic, that noble and patriotic organization whose ranks are being rapidly thinned year by year. After the close of the war Mr. Minton resumed his association with agricultural pursuits in Butler county, and here, in the year 1873, he wedded Miss Catherine Fye, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Boyd) Fye, highly respected pioneers of Butler county, who was still a comparatively young woman at the time of her death and who is survived by two children—Edna, who is the wife of Dr. D. A. Sexton, and Hazel, who is the wife of Charles Cochran, of Ross township, Butler county. After his marriage Mr. Minton engaged in farm operations on a place to the east of his present homestead, and there he continued his operations until his removal to the present home farm, which comprises eighty-six acres, on the Colerain pike, this being one of the model farms of Butler county. In an adjoining township Mr. Minton owns 190 acres of land, and this likewise is well improved, besides which he has fourteen acres of valuable timber land in the county. In 1901 William Minton married Myrtle, the daughter of John and Sallie (Boyd) Berryman of Lima, Ohio. Mrs. Minton is a gifted musician and has traveled extensively in this country and in foreign lands. She has frequently entered into the social activities of Hamilton and Butler county and during the World war she did Red Cross work, assisted in home-talent affairs and went to Camp Sherman as an entertainer. Mrs. Minton is a member of the Woman's club of Hamilton, is a Daughter of the American Revolution and belongs to the George Washington Memorial association. Mr. and Mrs. Minton spend their winters in Hamilton, though Mr. Minton continues to give a general supervision to the farm properties. Mr. Minton has been a resourceful and spirited advocate of progress in all departments of farm enterprise, and his liberality and public spirit have been of insistent and constructive order. From the governor of Ohio he received appointment to serve with other representative farmers as a delegate to the Farmers' National Congress, and he has thus served at several of the assemblies of this important organization, in the work of which he has taken a commendable interest and active part. Mr. Minton served as a member of the Ohio State Commission of the Nashville, Tennessee, Exposition. Political ambition of a personal type has never agitated Mr. Minton, but he is a man of strong convictions relative to matters of economic and governmental policy and accords unwavering al-

legiance to the Republican party. Both he and his wife are liberal contributors to church and philanthropic work. It may well be noted that Mr. Minton was a boyhood friend and playmate of Judge Kenesaw M. Landis, the distinguished jurist who is now serving on the bench of the Federal District Court in the city of Chicago, and Mr. Minton has had the pleasure of entertaining the judge on various occasions when the latter has visited the scenes of his boyhood.

William H. Minton, office manager of the American Rolling Mill, Middletown, has been a resident of this city for twenty-three years, except for three years spent in Springfield, Ill., and during this time has risen to a position of great trust and responsibility in business circles and to high estate in citizenship. He was born at West Milton, Ohio, December 23, 1869, a son of Dr. William H. H. and Elizabeth (Shellenbarger) Minton. His forefathers, natives of New Jersey, left that state, several of whom located in Kentucky. One of these brothers became a farmer in the vicinity of Hopkinsville, Ky., and at one time owned the farm adjoining that which was owned by the family that gave to this country the Great Emancipator. His great-grandfather, however, selected the Miami valley of Ohio as the scene for his activities. His father was born and reared in Dayton and engaged in the practice of medicine at West Milton and other points, and became one of the leading physicians of his day and locality, with a record of three and one-half years of valiant service during the Civil war as assistant surgeon attached to a regiment of Ohio volunteers in the Union Army. For years he practised at Bradford, Ohio, where his death occurred in May, 1910. He was sincerely mourned as physician, man and citizen. Doctor Minton was twice married and had three children by his first union: William H., Ellis, and Kitty, the two latter deceased. The mother, Elizabeth Shellenbarger Minton, was the daughter of Peter and Ann Ullery Shellenbarger whose ancestors were among the first settlers of the Miami valley, and who were prominent in the upbuilding of both state and nation. William H. Minton was but one and a half years old when his mother died and he was reared by a stepmother. To the second union was born William Arthur, Paul and Ruth. Mr. Minton received good educational advantages, and immediately after his graduation from the Bradford High school went to Omaha, Nebr., where he became bookkeeper for an implement house. In January, 1896, he returned to Ohio, having been transferred by his firm to the McSherry Manufacturing company at Middletown, and remained with that concern in Middletown and Springfield, Ill., until entering the service of the American Rolling Mill, in 1912, as office manager. He is a man of marked capacity, fully qualified by nature and training to discharge the responsible duties of his office. Mr. Minton was married August 28, 1894, to Evangeline Shiller, of Omaha, Nebr. To this union there have been born two children: Adelaide and Sarah Elizabeth. The former is taking a nurse's training course at the Jewish hospital, Cincinnati. The latter was married on November 19, 1919, to John Brown McKee of Cincinnati. The mother of

these children died October 15, 1913. August 15, 1916, Mr. Minton married Nellie, daughter of Dr. Warren F. and Clyde (Gordon) Reed, of Ottawa, Ohio, and they have one son,—William Warren, born June 30, 1917. Mrs. Minton, a brilliant woman with a charming personality, is a graduate of the Ottawa High school, and the National Park seminary, at Washington, D. C., and completed her education with a nurse's training course at the Jewish hospital, Cincinnati. On both sides of the family she belongs to old and honored families of Ohio, and her maternal grandfather, John Gordon, was one of the early recorders of Butler county. Her father, Dr. Warren F. Reed, who was for years engaged in the practice of medicine at Ottawa, where he was one of his community's distinguished citizens, died in March, 1913, while her mother still survives and makes her home at Ottawa. Mr. Minton's brother, Dr. William A. Minton, took over his father's practice, and is successfully engaged in professional work at Bradford, Ohio. Mr. Minton is a Republican in his political allegiance. He and Mrs. Minton occupy a splendid home on Linden avenue, and are actively engaged in the work of the Presbyterian church, of which both are members.

George Edward Mitchell. Prominent among the men whose lifetime energies have been centered in the work of producing food products as tillers of the soil, is found George Edward Mitchell, for many years a resident of Oxford township, where he is respected and esteemed both as farmer and citizen. Mr. Mitchell was born in this township, July 5, 1858, a son of William and Mary (Booth) Mitchell, natives of Yorkshire, England, each of whom came when young to the United States. The Mitchells settled one-half mile below the present farm of their son, C. H. Mitchell, which was the original settlement place of the Booth family. William Booth, an uncle on the maternal side of George Edward Mitchell, and Daniel Mitchell, an uncle on the paternal side, fought as soldiers of the Union during the Civil war. To William and Mary (Booth) Mitchell there were born the following children: Mary Jane, who became the wife of William Ayres; Sarah, who became the wife of A. Booth; C. H., George E., John W., deceased; Sophia B., Fred W. and Fannie P. The township schools of Butler county furnished George Edward Mitchell with his educational training, and during the vacation periods he assisted his father in the work of the home farm, and not long after he entered upon his independent career he was married to Erminie, daughter of Alfred and Irene (Roseboom) Carle, of Springdale, Hamilton county, Ohio. Mrs. Mitchell has one sister, Mrs. William House of Butler county. To Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell there were born: John W., who while attending Miami university was in the student officers' training camp; Grace B., a graduate of Oxford Normal school, now the wife of Fred Pfister of Oxford township; Mary E., the wife of A. A. Murdock; George E. and Erminie. As a farmer Mr. Mitchell has always been a raiser of large crops and a feeder of stock. He is considered one of the skilled farmers of his district, and is known as a good neighbor and a public-spirited citizen. His farm, consisting of 100 acres of

valuable land, boasts of numerous modern improvements, and Mr. Mitchell, taking a pride in the appearance of his property, is constantly endeavoring to make it more attractive as a modern country estate. As a fraternalist he is popular as a member of the local lodge of Odd Fellows, and is likewise a thirty-second degree Mason.

Louis Mock, the beginning of whose agricultural experience in Butler county was coincident with the early history of the county's real growth, and who was for an extended lifetime one of the prosperous and prominent agriculturists of Madison township, passed the entire period of his active career in close communion with the soil. A man of real worth and ability, of high character and marked public spirit, he was widely and well known, and when he died, September, 1909, there were many to mourn his loss. Mr. Mock was born in Germany, January 12, 1844, a son of Godfried and Hannah (Flindchpach) Mock, natives of that country. The family emigrated to the United States in search of greater opportunities than they could enjoy in their own land, in 1853, and found conditions to their liking in the vicinity of Germantown, O., where for some years they lived on a farm. Later in life the father removed with his family to Madison township, Butler county, where he continued to be successfully engaged in agricultural operations during the remainder of a long, active and useful life. He and his worthy wife were members of the United Brethren church and the parents of five children, namely: Louis; Christopher; Mollie, who married Henry Selby; Elizabeth, deceased; and Caroline, who married Daniel Sinkey, of Madison township. The boyhood of Louis Mock was divided between attending school and working on the home farm, and he was reared in a family in which due attention was given to proper training along the lines of industry and the value of money. He resided at home until the time of his marriage, in January, 1868, to Miss Maggie Kohnle, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Gottlieb and Christina (Kramer) Kohnle, who came to the United States in 1854, and settled at Germantown, where they made their home for five years. The father of Mrs. Mock was a baker and miller by vocations, and in later life went to Dayton, where he owned and operated a mill for five years, and where his death occurred at the age of sixty years. He was one of the industrious and honorable men of his locality and had numerous friends and well-wishers among his fellow-citizens, whose confidence he never betrayed in business affairs. His widow survived him for a long period, and was eighty years of age at the time she died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mock, in Madison township. There were seven children in the Kohnle family: Gottlieb, a retired miller of St. Marys, Ohio; John, a baker at Los Angeles, Cal.; Lawrence, deceased, who was a miller; Maggie, now Mrs. Mock; George, a baker by trade, for thirty years a member of the Regular army, with which he died while serving in the Philippine Islands; Fred, an inspector at Dayton, O.; and Henry, a moulder of that city. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mock: Hannah, who married Alvin Leiwig and has ten children,—Emma, Florence, Windsor, Helen, Bessie, Elva, Rowina, Ethel, LeRue and

Claris; Katie, who married L. A. Longman, a farmer of Madison township and has one son,—Russell; and Sadie, who married John Gilbert, an engineer of Middletown, and has three children,—Ruth, Harold and Willodine. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Mock settled on a farm in section 9, Madison township, and there the career of this honorable agriculturist was completed in the pursuits of agriculture. The married life of Mr. Mock was a particularly harmonious one, and it was perhaps in the circle of his immediate family that his considerate and lovable traits were most in evidence. He was kindness itself to those dependent upon his support, and the soul of loyalty to the friends who brightened his pathway with their appreciation and regard. Shrewd business ability and a capacity for saving left his family in comfortable circumstances, but more than aught else do they treasure the legacy of a good name and noble purpose, which grew out of the life and efforts of one of Madison township's good citizens. Mr. Mock was a Democrat in politics, while his religious connection was with the United Brethren church, to which his widow also belongs. This most estimable woman, who still makes her home on the farm, now conducted by a manager, cherishes many happy memories of the early days in this locality, and during her long residence here has made and maintained numerous friendships.

Orley H. Moles, who is connected with the American Rolling Mill company at Middletown, shares with the late R. B. Carnahan the distinction of having developed the idea and process of ingot iron, which has been one of the main factors in the success of the company which he represents. Mr. Moles was born at Laurel, Ind., September 3, 1870, a son of Marion J. and Martha (Rollins) Moles, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of North Carolina, who were married in the former state in 1866. Marion J. Moles, who was originally a farmer by vocation, moved from Indiana to Decatur, Ala., in 1879, and one year later the mother died, leaving to Orley H., the eldest, the responsibility for the rearing of his younger brothers and sister, namely: William Allen; Ida Alice, who is now Mrs. Albert Castell, of Alabama; Rev. George Franklin and Rev. Thomas Marion, ministers of the Methodist and Baptist churches respectively; and Elmer, who is now deceased. The father of these children died in 1899. Orley H. Moles completed his education in the public schools of Alabama. He received his introduction to the steel business at Muncie, Ind., from there he removed to Alabama, and then as a young man returned to Indiana, where, October 21, 1903, he married Mada Arizona Hasting, who was born at Fairmont, Ind., April 28, 1874, a daughter of Carter and Elizabeth (Rowe) Hasting, and a granddaughter on the maternal side of John and Mary Ann (Thomas) Smith. Mrs. Moles' father died in January, 1908, and her mother, November 2, 1919. In 1900 Mr. Moles came to Middletown to assist in starting the American Rolling Mill company's plant, with which he has been connected ever since, at this time being employed in the capacity of a melter. He assisted in the tapping of the first iron at this plant, and has subsequently been tireless in his efforts in the development of the

company's principal product. Associated with the late R. B. Carnahan, he discovered ingot iron, which has been such a great factor in building up the American Rolling mill. Mr. Carnahan often stated that he never could have achieved the success he did in his invention had it not been for Mr. Moles' assistance, and at the Panama-Pacific International exposition, the latter was awarded a bronze medal for the work which he had accomplished in the production of an article of world-wide usefulness. Mr. Carnahan always numbered Mr. Moles among his nearest and dearest friends, and the latter served as a pall-bearer at the time of Mr. Carnahan's death. Mr. Moles is a conservative, unassuming man, of generous impulses, who is admired by all who know him for his sterling traits of character. In politics he is a Republican, but has had no desire for public office or political preferment. Fraternally he belongs to all Masonic bodies. He and Mrs. Moles are devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and reside in their own home, an attractive modern residence situated on Garfield avenue.

Frank Moon, one of the progressive business men and public-spirited citizens of Middletown, was born at Midland City, Clinton county, Ohio, September 24, 1872, a son of James C. and Eliza (Carey) Moon, and was still a youth when he moved to Middletown with his parents. When he had completed his public school education, he secured employment with the Sorg Tobacco company, and later applied himself to learning the trade of barber, a vocation to which he applied himself for about fifteen years. In the meantime he had dealt to some extent in real estate, and is now the possessor of two of the most valuable business houses on Main street. He has an excellent reputation in business circles and as a citizen has always been found supporting measures that have benefited Middletown and its people. In political affairs he is a Republican, although inclined to be liberal, and his fraternal affiliations are with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, in both of which orders he has numerous friends. With his family, he belongs to the Methodist church. Mr. Moon was married October 6, 1892, to Henrietta Irene, daughter of Ira P. and Elizabeth M. (Bolmer) Dakin, who still make their home with their daughter and son-in-law on Young street. The father, who was born at Harveysburg, Ohio, October 11, 1853, is an inventive genius and was granted a patent by the United States Government on a device for the protection of fruit trees. Mrs. Dakin was born August 2, 1851, at Franklin, Ohio. They have been the parents of seven children: Retta Irene, now Mrs. Moon; Sylvester, who is deceased; Chandler LeRoy; Leonard Clement; Josie D.; Addie Maria; and Raymond Harrison, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Moon there have been born ten children: Bertha, the wife of Ever Eberhardt, with two children,—Mildred Louise and Fayette; Mamie, the widow of Braxton Tewart; Etta Marie, deceased; Earl; Irwin; Raymond Harrison; Retta Irene; Edwin Arthur; Frances Elizabeth; and Addie.

William H. Moon. Few families of Clinton county, Ohio, are as prominent as that which bears the name of Moon, not only

because of its extensive membership and high standard of citizenship, but because of the extent of its ancestral history for several centuries back in Denmark. History relates that this family has never been conquered. On one occasion the king of England made a requisition on the king of Denmark for a regiment of soldiers, a bodyguard for His Majesty himself. The Danish monarch, regarding this as an honor, issued orders for the best men of his kingdom to be selected, persons erect in stature, of athletic build, light complexioned, with blue eyes and red hair. A regiment from the best families fully corresponding to the orders was organized and sent to the English king, and the banner which it bore, in addition to the national colors, included the representation of a half-moon, the regiment being known as the Moon Regiment. For efficient service the king of England gave them land, and they formed a colony, unanimously adopting the name of Moon, in which name the land was given. In 1682, at the time of the advent of William Penn in America, a colony of Moons was founded in Bucks county, Pa., and from there the family is traced to Red Stone, western Pennsylvania, and from New York to Virginia, the deed of land from William Penn being given to John and Jasper Moon. In the spring of 1808 Daniel and Joseph Moon came to Highland county and settled near Martinsville. Their descendants included the following children: Sarah A., who became Mrs. Elmore Clark; Diantha, who became Mrs. W. J. Kilsoe; Thomas W., who married Margaret Carey; Mary J., who became Mrs. Ambrose Smith; James C., born November 11, 1835, who married Eliza Carey; Mary J., who became Mrs. Andrew Beals; Phoebe; Joseph B., Daniel C.; Simon P., who married Rebecca Stephenson; Jesse, who married Ruth Davis; and Lydia M. Among the well-known members of the Moon family now residing at Middletown is William H. Moon. His grandfather, Thomas Moon, who died September 4, 1902, at the remarkable age of ninety-seven years, was a son of Joseph and Sarah (Comer) Moon, and was born at Bays Mountain, Jefferson county, Tenn., May 23, 1805. He was married at Lebanon, Tenn., April 7, 1825, to Mary Chew, who was born September 7, 1807, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Chew) Chew, natives of Warren county, Ohio. James C. Moon, the father of William H. Moon, came to Middletown in 1888 from Martinsville, Ohio, and followed the carpenter trade until his death, December 6, 1896. He was a veteran of the Civil war, in which he fought with the 63d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Moon married Eliza Carey, who died August 6, 1882, and they became the parents of the following children: Lydia, the wife of Daniel C. Mills, of Middletown; John T., of this city; Jennie, who married H. Kelsoe, of Colorado; Robert, of Guthrie, Okla.; Susie, deceased; Newton, of Middletown; Nettie, the wife of George Friedley, of Oklahoma; Olive, the wife of Elmer Benson, of Oklahoma; William H., of this notice; Frank M., of Middletown; Edwin L., of Grand Junction, Colo.; Bertha E., the wife of Jacob Ward, of Middletown; Earl, deceased; and Lavina, the wife of Fred Leopold, of Nebraska. William H. Moon was born in Clinton county, Ohio, May 13, 1870, and there attended the

public schools until he was fourteen years of age, at which time he went to Kansas. After three years in that state, he went to Nebraska, where he was married, and March 27, 1895, came to Middletown where he began to follow the trade of carpenter. At the present time he is connected with the Prudential Life Insurance company, and is accounted one of his city's reliable and substantial citizens. He is a member of the local lodges of the Loyal Order of Moose and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and is a constructive citizen who gives his support to all worthy movements. December 31, 1890, Mr. Moon married Amanda Rubeck, who was born September 3, 1872, a daughter of John and Eliza (Swanson) Rubeck. Her father, who fought during the Civil war as a member of a Nebraska regiment of volunteer infantry, died December 19, 1902; and her mother passed away in 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Moon there have been born ten children: Fearole Evelyn, who resides with her parents; DeForest, who died in the United States service at Vera Cruz, June 10, 1915; Paul B., deceased; Norman, Margaret, Edith, Bernal Rubeck and Harold, of Middletown; Robert, deceased; and Edna Elizabeth, a beautiful child and the pride of the home, who died from injuries received when struck by an automobile at Middletown, June 28, 1919.

Hugh Miller Moore, M. D. Of the men devoted to the science of healing in Butler county, none brings to bear upon his calling larger gifts of scholarship than Dr. Hugh Miller Moore, of Oxford. For the past decade and a half his name has been increasingly identified with the best tenets of medical and surgical science, and by many of the longest established and most conservative families his skill, resource and obliging temperament have come to be regarded as indispensable. Doctor Moore was born at Venice, Ohio, April 20, 1876, a son of Rev. D. R. Moore, D. D., and a grandson of Rev. William H. Moore, for many years a leading Presbyterian divine. Rev. D. R. Moore was born at Rising Sun, Ohio, and attended Miami university, where, he met as a fellow-student, Elvira Gilchrist, who later became his first wife, and Hugh Miller Moore was the only child of this union. She was a daughter of Dr. Hugh Gilchrist, a noted practitioner of medicine of his day. After graduating from Miami university, Reverend Moore attended Lane seminary, where he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity and entered the ministry of the Presbyterian church, subsequently holding pastorates at Brookville, Logan, South Salem and Bond Hill, Ohio. When he retired from the ministry he adopted agricultural pursuits as his vocation, and at present is residing on a farm near Billingsville, Ohio. His first wife died at Brookville, in 1881, and he later married Clara King, they becoming the parents of five children: Dr. Paul, a successful practising physician of Cleveland, Ohio; Stanley, a farmer, who carries on operations for his father; Ross, who is also engaged in farming, near Liberty, Ind.; Hazelett, a physician, engaged in practice in association with his brother Hugh M.; and Robert, aged seventeen years, who is a helmsman in the United States Naval Reserves. After attending the public schools Doctor Moore entered Miami university, where he secured

the degree of Master of Science, following which he went to Johns Hopkins university for his medical training and was duly graduated after a brilliant college career with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. To further prepare himself for his life work, he took post-graduate work at Prague and Berlin, and eventually settled at Oxford, where he has since built up a gratifyingly large and prominent practice. Doctor Moore has the zeal which recognizes no limitations to his calling, and the great unrest which projects him into ever-widening channels of research. Energy, adaptability, gentleness and sympathy have blazed the way for the acquirement of valuable professional compensations, and a realization of professional ambitions, and by the same token it may be said of Doctor Moore that much is promised to a man who has, in addition, the maturity, practical experience and broad outlook on life of forty-three years. During the great war he offered his services to his Government, and was accepted as a member of the Medical Reserve Corps. In addition to his professional interests, he has important connections in other fields of endeavor, and is vice-president of the Farmers Bank of Oxford, of which he was one of the organizers, and is the owner of a large farm in Franklin county, as well as valuable property at Oxford. He is a member of the various bodies of his profession, being a Fellow of the American Academy of Medicine, and has important associations in civic and social life. At the time he settled at Oxford, he was married to Gertrude Burrill, of Baird, Texas, who was a student at Oxford Female college. His present wife, with whom he was united February 19, 1919, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Beaton of Oxford, daughter of Daniel Beaton.

L. L. Morehouse, son of Alfred and Hannah (Gillespie) Morehouse, was born in Morgan township, November 9, 1865. His mother was a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Pierson) Gillespie. The parents of L. L. Morehouse lived in Morgan township their entire lives. To them were born the following children: L. L ; Hattie, deceased, who married Dr. E. A. Sturm, now of Lockland. L. L. Morehouse was educated at the Millville school of Ross township. At Millville, after he had finished school, he occupied himself as dealer in horses and his business career thereafter was active and varied, and for a time dealt in fine buggies and harness, and later he was salesman of acetylene gas plants made by the Davis company of Elkhart, Ind. He now lives on the old Andres Jones farm in Morgan township, where he is engaged in extensive farming. In addition to these interests, he deals in a fertilizer prepared by the Globe company of Louisville, Ky. In 1909, he married Vida Williamson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Williamson, of New Haven, Harrison county, Ohio. To L. L. Morehouse and his wife have been born these children: Maud M., Martha M., Lee, and Alfred J. Morehouse. In addition to the farm of 185 acres in Morgan township, he owns 400 acres in Arizona, acquired while he was traveling through the southwest some years ago. Ross township honored him by selecting him as its assessor. He is Democrat in politics, and a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge. Like

other patriotic Americans, Mr. Morehouse threw himself with great zeal into war work during the recent conflict, and secured great and worth-while results from his work for his country.

L. E. Moreland. Located not far from College Corner, Ohio, are the famous Tallewanda springs, from which comes the fundamental product which, with other ingredients, is used in the manufacture of Tallewanda ginger ale, a carbonated, non-alcoholic beverage that has found much favor with the public. The success of this product may be largely accredited to L. E. Moreland, whose splendid business abilities have been centered in manufacturing and marketing the beverage, and who has always been one of the best of boosters for College Corner and its institutions. Mr. Moreland was born at Covington, Ky., where he received his education in the public schools and where for four years he was employed by the United States Government in the capacity of gauger. In 1894 he formed a connection with the Joseph R. Peebles' Sons company, of Cincinnati, and became manager for them of Tallewanda springs, and since that time has had entire charge of the bottling and marketing of the beverage mentioned. He is a business man of excellent ability and of the highest standing in commercial circles, and has labored assiduously for the welfare of the community, having been particularly active in his support of all enterprises tending to advance the interests of College Corner. As a voter, he prefers to use his own judgment in his choice of candidates, and therefore has not allied himself with any party, nor has he drawn factional lines. He is active in lodge work, belonging to the Masons at Liberty, Ind., and the Knights of Pythias, I. O. O. F. and Modern Woodmen at College Corner, and is very popular in his home community, in addition to having numerous friends elsewhere. Mr. Moreland married Miss Grace Scott of Louisville, Ky., and they have three daughters.

Ben Morgan. Self-acquired wealth, liberal ideas, ambitions expressed in the promotion of agriculture, education, religion and simplicity of living, as well as unquestioned public and private integrity, constitute the fundamentals upon which rest the enviable standing and reputation of Ben Morgan, one of the substantial agriculturists of Lemon township, Butler county. It has been Mr. Morgan's destiny to have been connected with Butler county all of his life and to have worthily perpetuated the name of his late honored soldier father. Ben Morgan was born at Lebanon, Warren county, O., in 1867, a son of Col. Ben Morgan. His father, as one of the substantial and influential men of this part of the Miami valley was widely known because of his firm stand upon principles which he believed were right. The Civil war came on to give him an opportunity of demonstrating his real worth, and when strong men were needed to support the cause of the Union, he offered his body and his services to the Government. His offer was accepted, and October 7, 1861, he was appointed recruiting officer for the 75th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the service for three years. When the regiment reached its full quota, he was appointed and commissioned captain of Company F, and

the strenuous preparatory work and drilling continued uninterruptedly until January, 1862, when the regiment, under command of Col. N. C. McLean, was ordered to the field and joined the forces of General Milroy in West Virginia, where they assisted in driving the enemy over the Alleghany mountains. June 11, 1863, Captain Morgan, by appointment and commission, became Lieut.-Col. Morgan, and less than three weeks later, July 1, 1863, was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg while his regiment was gallantly withstanding a galling fire. At the battle of Gainesville, August 17, 1864, he was captured by the enemy, but was soon exchanged and rejoined his regiment, with which he continued to fight bravely until receiving his honorable discharge, March 15, 1865, at Jacksonville, Fla., at the termination of his term of service. Among the battles of the 75th Ohio, in which Colonel Morgan participated were: Monterey, Va., April 12, 1862; Shaw's Ridge, Va., 1862; McDowell, Va., May 8, 1862; Franklin, Va., 1862; Strasburg, Va., June 1-2, 1862; Cross Keys, Va., June 8, 1862; Cedar Mountain, Va., August 8, 1862; Freemans Ford, Va., August 24, 1862; Waterloo Bridge, August 23-25, 1862; Sulphur Springs, Va., August 25, 1862; Second Bull Run, August 30, 1862; Aldie, Va., October 30, 1862; Chancellorsville, Va., May 1-4, 1863; Gettysburg, Pa., July 1-3, 1863; Hagerstown, Md., July 11, 1863; Fort Wagner, S. C., August 18-September 7, 1863; Johns Island, S. C., July 5-9, 1864; Camp Baldwin, Fla., August 14, 1864; Gainesville, Fla., August 17, 1864; Pocataligo Bridge, S. C., January 14-16, 1865; and Charleston, S. C., February 18, 1865. Following the war, Colonel Morgan returned to Warren county, O., resumed his business activities, and spent the remainder of his life at Franklin, where his civilian record was one that rivalled his army exploits. Before engaging with Uncle Sam, Colonel Morgan took unto himself a helpmate from Warren county. He was greatly respected in the community and won business success and personal prominence. Ben Morgan received a public school education at Lebanon, and grew up in the midst of an agricultural community, so that when he was called upon to choose a career, decided upon farming for his life work. He has had no reason to regret his choice, for he has been prosperous in his undertakings and is now accounted one of the well-to-do men of his township, where he is engaged in mixed farming and stock raising. He has shown an active and helpful interest in the civic affairs of Lemon township, and has served very acceptably in the capacities of assessor and member of the board of school directors. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he and his wife and children belong to the Methodist church and support its movements. Mr. Morgan was married in 1898 to Miss Louella Knecht, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (McCormick) Knecht, residents of Butler county, O., and to this union there have been born three children: Ben Donald, Mark and Joseph T.

James Wesley Morris, a native of Butler county, Ohio, and one of its substantial farmers, was born in Fairfield township, April 6, 1862, son of L. D. and Sarah C. (Bobmeyer) Morris, the former of whom was born in Delaware and the latter in Butler county.

On coming to Butler county, L. D. Morris engaged in farming and married Sarah C. Bobmeyer, who was the daughter of John C. and Salome (Dubbs) Bobmeyer, who lived in Fairfield township, and who had ten children: Frank; Henry; Susan, Mrs. S. M. Morris; Sarah C., mother of the subject of this review; John; Charles; Margaret, Mrs. Andy Schuler; Mary, Mrs. C. W. Riffle; Eliza, Mrs. Charles Smith; and Clara, Mrs. Andy Fox. The parents of James W. Morris lived in Fairfield township, and he was the only son born to them. The father died in 1862, and the second marriage of his widow was to William W. Graham, to which union there were seven children born: Albert, married Anna Fields; John, married Gertrude Shepherd; Walter, married Helen Davis; Charles, deceased; Ann, Mrs. Harry Smith; Maude, Mrs. William Lank; Clara, Mrs. Harry Foraker. James Wesley Morris, the subject of this sketch, after finishing in the public schools, completed his education through courses in both the Lebanon Normal, and Wesleyan university at Delaware, Ohio. On leaving the university, he engaged in farming as his life work. On January 14, 1886, he married Lillian Dilg, one of eighteen children born to George J. and Mary (Pfau) Dilg of Hamilton, Ohio. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Morris located on their own farm of 146 acres in Fairfield township, and still live there. Mr. Morris has been very successful throughout his life, and is the owner of one of the most desirable farms in the township. It is admirably situated, well-equipped, and in a high state of cultivation. To add to its desirability, it is set off with a very handsome and well-arranged home, and as a whole, the place is most delightful and attractive. To Mr. and Mrs. Morris nine children have been born, one of whom died in infancy. The others are: James Wesley, jr.; Charles F.; Edward Leland; Dow; Robert P.; Harry A.; Lillie; and Alice. J. Wesley, jr., married Elizabeth Humphries; he is a graduate of Miami university and the Cincinnati Law school, and is a successful attorney of Hamilton. Charles married Grace Gilbert, and they have a daughter, Ruth. Edward Leland married Edith Kohler, and they have three children, Stanford, Mary Edith, and Helen. Dow married Edna Kohler, and is assistant to his father on the farm. James Wesley, jr., and Robert were both with the U. S. Army in France. James entered the infantry as a private for service on the Mexican border with the National Guard contingent, was promoted to lieutenant, and served on the front in France. Robert entered the National Guard as an infantry private in 1917, was promoted to sergeant, and served in France also. Mr. Morris, sr., is regarded as one of the substantial men of the community. He takes much interest in public affairs and has served the people of his township in the capacity of clerk, appraiser, and member of the school board. In politics he is a Democrat.

Frank B. Morton, one of the prominent and influential citizens and substantial agriculturists and stock raisers of Oxford township, has been engaged in farming all of his life in Butler county. He is not unknown to public life, as on several occasions he has filled township offices very acceptably. Mr. Morton was born near

Darrtown, Butler county, Ohio, in Milford township, in 1867, a son of Andrew and Jennie (Ogle) Morton, also natives of that township. The parents went to the common schools of their day, were reared in an agricultural atmosphere, and after their marriage settled on the old Ogle homestead near Darrtown, to the east. Later the father went to Arkansas, in 1894, where he resided about six years, dying in 1899, his widow now being a resident of Darlington, Wis. In the early days the father was a great hunter and expert shot with a rifle. He was a staunch Democrat, and was a man of unswerving integrity. He and Mrs. Morton were the parents of nine children, of whom five are living: McQuinston, Mrs. Otie Neff, Mrs. Pauline Davis, Frank B. and Mrs. Bessie Weekley. Frank B. Morton was educated in the public schools of Milford township and resided on the home place until he was twenty-seven years of age. He was married in 1898 to Vada Kennedy, who was born in Oxford township on the farm on which they now make their home, a daughter of Charles and Leona Kennedy, the former of Oxford township and the latter of Millersburg, Ind. Mr. Kennedy, who followed farming all his life in Oxford township, died in 1911, and his widow still makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Morton. There are five children in the Morton family: Raybourn, a resident of Hamilton; Vada, of Kenton, Ohio; Columbus O., at home; Curtis, who is now in the United States Regular Army; and Lewis, who lives in Darke county. Mr. Morton has always been a farmer, and he and his wife now have a 114-acre farm, on which he carries on general operations and also raises hogs and cattle. As before noted, he has always taken an interest in township affairs, and has been elected to a number of offices as a candidate of the Democratic party. His career has been a successful one, and he is justly accounted one of his community's representative citizens of the best agricultural class.

Robert Mosbaugh, D. D. S. The professional career of Dr. Robert Mosbaugh has left a definite impression upon the dental history of College Corner. This thriving community, to which he came in 1914, offered a promising field for the young practitioner, and the citizens who have watched his advancement have never regretted the confidence which they placed in his skill, knowledge and enthusiasm. He has accepted the opportunities of the town of his adoption, has fashioned his resources to its needs, and has reflected sincerity, capability and genuine worth upon a profession for which he is undeniably and admirably equipped, being the first to install X-ray equipment and apply it to the dental profession in this vicinity. Doctor Mosbaugh was born at Cambridge City, Ind., a son of Frank and Alice (Lackey) Mosbaugh, who still reside at that place. Frank Mosbaugh, a Civil war veteran, is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Cambridge City, where he is owner and publisher of the Cambridge City Tribune. The other child in the family is John Mosbaugh, who is an accountant by vocation. Robert Mosbaugh attended the graded and high schools of Cambridge City, Ind., and as a young man studied dentistry in the Cincinnati Dental college. Subsequently he entered the Ohio

State university, where he completed the course in dentistry and secured his degree, and at that time located at Oxford, where he followed his calling for six years. In 1914 he changed his location to College Center, where he is now accounted one of the leading professional men of the community, and has an excellent patronage among the representative people of the town. When he left college halls, he did not, like so many, give up his research and investigation into dental science, but on the contrary has continued to be a close, careful and assiduous student, a reader of dental literature and a man who keeps closely abreast of the advancements made in his calling through membership in the leading organizations and through subscription to the principal periodicals. Doctor Mosbaugh was married in 1914 to Nina Pentecost, of this community, daughter of Thomas and Mary Pentecost, of a well-known College Corner family. To this union there has come one son, Richard, who was born in 1917. Doctor Mosbaugh is a Mason. During the period of the war he was a member of the dental practitioners' branch of the National Preparedness League of America, and was particularly active in the work of the Red Cross society, in which he was aided by Mrs. Mosbaugh.

Mosler Safe Company. In the mind of everyone at all familiar with manufacturing affairs, the name Mosler at once suggests the proud position which the city of Hamilton has attained among the centers of safe manufacturing in the United States, owing to the intimate connection of Moses, Julius and William Mosler, alike with the inception and the development of this important department of manufactures and commerce in Ohio. The Mosler Safe company was organized by these gentlemen at Cincinnati, Ohio, under the name of the Mosler Safe and Lock company, the first factory being on Pearl street. Later the business outgrew the original plant and the company moved to another location in the same city, this being followed by removal to a still larger place of business on Elm street. Subsequent growth and expansion warranted the building of a new factory on Front street, Cincinnati, but this likewise proved inadequade to handle the constantly increasing volume of business, and in 1890 it was decided to come to Hamilton, where there would be ample room for the plant to expand as conditions necessitated. Here the plant now occupies ten acres of ground, bounded by Grand boulevard, Lincoln avenue, Safe avenue and Mosler avenue, and one workroom alone is 200x400 feet. This company, always progressive and enterprising, has been responsible for most of the great advances made in safe manufacture during the past three decades. In introduced the present round-cornered safe, and improved time locks to their present high standard of efficiency, and is to be credited with many other improvements in safe construction, such as burglar-proof walls and safes locked with time locks, which, being inside the walls with the door closed air-tight in its jamb, are inaccessible from outside. Of more recent years the company has manufactured the circular screw-door safe, which is absolutely impenetrable, for, there being no hole through the door for a lock-spindle, and therefore there being no

such article, all locks inside are governed by a time lock. The company owns a great number of patents under which it is operating, and does a tremendous volume of business, with branches in every large city not only at home but abroad. During the period of the United States' participation in the World war, the company was extensively engaged in Government war contracts. Julius Mosler, one of the founders of the business, died in 1890, since which time the business has been directed by Moses Mosler, president, and William Mosler, vice-president, with their associates, J. G. Donaldson, secretary; and H. G. Mosler, assistant treasurer. The best commentary upon the enterprise and perseverance of the founders of this business is afforded by the immense establishment which they own and conduct, no less than by the record for business ability and commercial integrity which they have built up during four decades.

Addison Mount, a well-known and enterprising farmer of Hanover township, Butler county, has illustrated in his career the value of industry and energy when applied in a well-directed manner to the pursuits of agriculture. He has been pre-eminently the architect of his own fortune, and his prosperity has come as a result of the application of his natural talents and the acceptance of ordinary abilities. Mr. Mount was born near Trenton, N. J., November 12, 1855, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Fisher) Mount. Natives of New Jersey, the parents were educated, reared and married in that state, and there passed their lives in the pursuits of the soil. Of their twelve children, four are now living: Hiram, a retired farmer at Carlisle, Ohio; Kate, the wife of Peter Prime, a resident of New Jersey; Addison, of this notice; and William, of Trenton, N. J. Addison Mount was educated in the public schools of his native place and lived at home until after the death of his parents when, in 1875, he came west to Ohio. In 1880 Mr. Mount united in marriage with Clara Moses, of Franklin, Ohio, and they became the parents of seven children: Earl, identified with a bakery in New York City; Herman, who is a moulder at Hamilton, Ohio, and has an interest in his father's farm in Hanover township; John, following the same line at Middletown; Chester, a farmer in Montgomery county, Ohio; Burns, who served in the late war and went to France with the American Expeditionary Forces; Thomas, a farmer at Poast Town, Ohio; and Belle, who died in infancy. Following his marriage, Mr. Mount resided for two years in the vicinity of Troy, Ohio, and after selling out there spent a like period at Tippecanoe, Ohio. He then went to Madison township, Butler county, for four years, and in the spring of 1917 purchased his present farm, the Charles Beiser place, in Hanover township. This is an eighty-acre tract which has been brought to a high state of productiveness through good management, and on which he carries on general farming operations in a manner that leaves no doubt as to his entire ability, thorough knowledge of his occupation and general capacity for industry as well as for using modern methods in a way to make his labors fully repay him. He is a Republican in politics and is accounted a good and public-spirited citizen. He

and Mrs. Mount are faithful members of the Old School Baptist church, and both are widely known and have many friends in Butler county.

E. C. Muff. For more than thirty years one of the sound and stable business institutions of Somerville, Butler county, has been the enterprise conducted under the name of the Somerville elevator. The proprietor of this business, E. C. Muff, came into possession of the concern in 1887, and during the intervening time has maintained high standards as to business principles and transactions, so that he is justly accounted today one of the leading business citizens of this thriving Miami valley community. Mr. Muff was born at Somerville, Ohio, in 1866, a son of John and Rachael (Antrim) Muff. His maternal grandfather was John Antrim, a native of New Jersey, who was one of the early settlers of Butler county, locating in Milford township in 1815. Securing land at the edge of the village of Somerville, he cleared it and put it under cultivation, developed a valuable farm, passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits, and died advanced in years, in 1879. He was a man widely known in the community and the confidence in which he was universally held caused him to be chosen for the responsible duties concerned with the settlement of estates and other matters of a like nature. He and his wife were the parents of six children, among whom was Rachael, who was born in Milford township. John Muff, father of E. C. Muff, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and was a young man when he emigrated to the United States. He arrived in Butler county in 1848, but before he was well settled the reports of the discovery of gold in California swept across the country and he and his brother Christian joined the hurrying throngs who were crossing the prairies in answer to the lure of the precious metal. During the eleven years that he remained in California, both he and his brother were leaders among the miners, and in their accumulation of gain were very fortunate. Returning to Butler county, Mr. Muff settled on a farm south of Somerville, where he carried on operations for some years, but in 1877 turned his attention to the flour mill business, purchasing the mills at Somerville. He did not continue in this line long, however, but disposed of his interests and returned to farming, in which he was engaged until the time of his retirement. He died August 13, 1903, aged sixty-four years, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he and his wife were members and in the work of which they were active. Mr. Muff was a strong Democrat, and as a man well known and highly respected wielded a strong influence in his community. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Edward C.; Stuart A., a retired farmer of New Carlisle, Ohio; and Sallie, the wife of E. L. Tracy. Edward C. Muff attended the public schools of Somerville and Lebanon, and as a young man secured his first business experience in association with his father. In 1887 he purchased the Somerville elevator, and this business has since been built up to proportions and prominence where it is considered a necessary commercial adjunct to the city. The elevator, which is situated on the Pennsylvania rail-

road tracks, is 200x64 feet, and has bins below the floor with a capacity of 10,000 bushels. Mr. Muff also handles all kinds of grain, flour, feed and seeds, and has built up a large and prosperous business in both departments of his enterprise. His commercial rating is of the best and those who have had dealings with him in the past have reason to place the utmost confidence in his integrity. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masonic Blue Lodge at Camden, and Lodge No. 45, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Somerville. He has been a supporter of all local measures promising progress and is accounted a useful and constructive citizen. Mr. Muff was married in 1893 to Miranda, daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Pottinger) Andrews, of Butler county. Mrs. Muff is a graduate of the Hamilton High school, is possessed of numerous accomplishments, and being of the Presbyterian faith is active in the work of this church at Somerville. Mr. Muff is a Democrat in his political affiliation, and is interested in local affairs. There are three children in the family: Ruth C., the wife of Isaac C. Baker, an attorney of Somerville; Harper Hale, who was attending the Ohio State university at the time of his enlistment, in November, 1917, in the United States service, and was sent to Fort Thomas, where he joined the Fifteenth Company, Aero Squadron; and Howard K., who was attending the Ohio State university when he became a corporal in the S. A. T. C., the student army.

George Mullen. An evidence of thrift and economy exists in the cozy and comfortable home owned by George Mullen in the city of Middletown, where he is employed in the great plant of the American Rolling Mill, with which he has been identified since 1905. Mr. Mullen adds to the long list of men who have come to Ohio from other communities, and is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born at Pittsburg, April 10, 1878. His parents, Charles and Katie (Garrison) Mullen, moved from Pittsburg to Anderson, Ind., where they resided for a number of years, but located at Alexandria, Ind., and where Mr. Mullen still makes his home. Mrs. Mullen passed away May 5, 1904, at Anderson, Ind. They were the parents of four children: George; Lida, the wife of Wilson Adams of Anderson, Ind.; Stella, the wife of John Gamble, of Anderson; William, a resident of Middletown. George Mullen was a child when his parents removed to Anderson, Ind., and there his education was secured in the public schools. Later he began to work at his trade at Alexandria, Ind., but in 1905 came to Middletown and entered the employ of the American Rolling Mill company, where he is now employed as a heater. He has the confidence of his superiors at the plant, where he is accounted a reliable and trustworthy workman, and where he has the respect and esteem, as well as friendship, of his fellow-workmen. Mr. Mullen was married August 5, 1902, at Anderson, Ind., to Bessie Hisey, who was born December 20, 1881, at Columbus, Ind., a daughter of John and Janie (Slater) Hisey, the latter now deceased and the former living. There were eleven children in the Hisey family, as follows: Bessie, who is now Mrs. Mullen; Charles and William, residents of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Lottie, the wife of George Panketh of Sandusky,

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MULLENDORE

Ohio; Jess, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Pearl, who died at the age of nineteen years; Bennie, who died in infancy; May, who died at the age of five years; Mabel, who died when four years old; and Maggie, the wife of William Stanley of Anderson, Ind. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mullen: Catherine, born at Anderson, Ind., March 19, 1904, and now attending school; Ruth, born July 5, 1906, at Middletown, and also attending school; and Martha Louise, born January 9, 1918, at Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Mullen are members of the Methodist church, and reside in a splendid home on Wycoff avenue, in the Homestead addition, erected by Mr. Mullen in 1916. He is liberal in politics, and a member of the Eagles and the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers.

William Mullendore. One of the well known and well-to-do representatives of the agricultural industry in Butler county, William Mullendore, has occupied his present farm in Lemon township since 1910. He was born in Gratis township, Preble county, Ohio, December 31, 1862, a son of Jacob and Mollie (Beachler) Mullendore. Jacob Mullendore was born in Pennsylvania, and was a lad when he accompanied his parents to Montgomery county, Ohio, there receiving a district school education and being reared to manhood as a farmer. Following his marriage there he moved to Preble county and settled in Gratis township, where he secured land, cleared and cultivated a farm, and established a comfortable home for himself and family. He was a man of more than ordinary intellectual capacity, having been a teacher in his early years, was a great reader all of his life, and was a man respected and looked up to in his community. He also served as a colonel of Ohio State Militia at one time, and in his death, which occurred at the age of sixty-eight years, the community lost a good and dependable citizen and one of much public spirit. He held several public offices and was influential in the ranks of the Democratic party. He and Mrs. Mullendore, who died at the age of seventy years, were members of the Lutheran church. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the following are living: Osro, of Germantown, Ohio; Ira, a retired farmer of that community; Jacob and Noah, farmers and merchants of Preble county; Annie, living in St. Clair township, Butler county; and William. William Mullendore obtained his education by attendance at the district schools and remained at home until his marriage to Minnie, daughter of Jacob Apple, of Montgomery county, Ohio. A sketch of the Apple family will be found in the review of Valentine Apple, elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Mullendore have four fine children, all of whom have been given the opportunity of securing good educations. Myrtle married Homer Lefferson, of Middletown, Ohio, a sketch of the Lefferson family being found elsewhere in this work. Carl W., formerly a farmer, is now the proprietor of an automobile garage at Franklin, Ohio. David Dewey and Paul Jacob are at home with their parents. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Mullendore located on a farm in Warren county, where they made their home and engaged in agricultural pursuits for eighteen years, but in

1910 disposed of their interests there and came to Butler county, where they secured by purchase their present farm in Lemon township. Mr. Mullendore's 100 acres are under a high state of cultivation, and the home and buildings are commodious and attractive, while the equipment and improvements are modern in every respect. He carries on general farming, raises Holstein and Short Horn cattle and draft horses, and does some dairying, selling milk at Middletown. Mr. Mullendore has always been a farmer and a good one. While he has been compelled to work hard, his labors have been amply rewarded, and he is now in the possession of a particularly fine property, which is not only valuable in itself, but yields him a handsome income. He is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliations, but has not sought nor cared for public preferment, having been content with the satisfaction which has arisen from his success as an agriculturist. He and Mrs. Mullendore are members of the Blue Ball Presbyterian church, where they have many friends, as they have in the community of their home.

Charles O. Munns, M. D. No one who has lived and labored at Oxford, Butler county, since the eighties has more emphatically succeeded to the good will and confidence of his fellowmen than Dr. Charles O. Munns. Not only have skill and ability contributed to the usefulness of this capable physician, but an inheritance of sterling family traits has lent strength and conservatism beyond the average to his character and influence. Frank Munns was born in County Sligo, Ireland, and was two years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, the family settling west of Oxford, in Butler county, in 1832. The grandfather continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his active life here, and reached the advanced age of ninety-two years. His children were: Frank; George, a retired citizen of Oxford; Sarah and Jennie, who are deceased; and Eliza, the widow of Ned Greer, of Oxford. Frank Munns was educated in the public schools and was reared as a farmer, a vocation which he followed successfully all of his life, passing away in 1901, at the age of seventy years. He married Mary Noland, a native of Butler county, who still survives him at Oxford at the age of eighty years, and they became the parents of three children: Charles O.; Louis, who resides with his mother; and Thomas, who married Emma Adams and resides at Oxford. Charles O. Munns received his early education in the public schools of Butler county, where he was born December 4, 1860, and subsequently received instruction at a preparatory school at Oxford. Later he attended Miami Training school, where he finished his sophomore college year and did part of the junior college work, but left to enter the University of Michigan medical department, at Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1881, and graduated in 1884, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Immediately embarking in practice, he has built up a large professional business, and among the long established families has a dependable and extensive patronage. He is a man of broad sympathies, pleasing personality, a larger faith in the goodness and happiness of the world than the average member of the profession, and of old-time courtesy and consideration. He

has served on the board of education of Oxford for several years, and his professional and business ability has contributed materially to the establishment and maintenance of high civic ideals. Doctor Munns was married in 1885 to Cornelia, daughter of Isaac Bogart, of Cincinnati, and they have two children: Helen, educated in the public schools of Oxford, at Miami university and Webster, now the wife of Charles Phalan, a prominent exporter of New York City; and Shirley, a graduate of the Oxford public schools and of Miami university, who attended the University of Chicago for two years and Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill., for a like period. After his graduation from the latter, in 1917, he was for one year an interne in the Mercy Hospital, Chicago, and one year in the Illinois State infirmary where he did operative work of eye, ear, nose and throat. He is at present an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist in Chicago. He married Cyrena Pocock, of Camden, Ohio, who is now leading contralto prima donna with the Chicago Grand Opera company, whose stage name is Cyrena Van Gordon. Dr. Charles O. Munns is a member of the Sigma Chi college fraternity, the Ohio State Homeopathic society, the American Institute of Homeopathy, the Union District Medical society, and the Miami Valley Medical society. He fraternizes with the Masonic order.

George C. Munns has for many years been one of the directing heads of one of the most flourishing financial institutions of the Miami valley, the Oxford National bank. His connection with this banking house extends back to the time of its founding, and much of the success which has attended it can be accredited to the splendid ability and foresight, which have also enabled him to make a success of his ventures in other fields of business and financial activities. Mr. Munns was born four miles northwest of Oxford, Butler county, Ohio, May 20, 1834, a son of Thomas F. and Ann (Anderson) Munns. The parents, natives of near Sligo, Ireland, sailed for the United States in 1832, and after a rough trip of thirty-two days on the Atlantic made port at New York. The little family then came down the river and canal to Ohio, where the father purchased 130 acres of wild land, and built thereon a log cabin in which George C. Munns was born. The father, a man of much energy, in spite of the fact that he was partially crippled, cleared a great deal of his land and added to his original purchase, so that when he retired to Oxford, in 1864, he was accounted a well-to-do man for his day. He reached the advanced age of ninety-one years, while Mrs. Munns attained the remarkable age of ninety-seven years, and both retained all of their faculties to the last. They were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and the parents of five children: Sarah, deceased, who married W. W. Greer and has ten children; Frank, a farmer, who died in 1909, his wife, Mary, also being deceased; Jennie, deceased, who was the wife of the late Alexander Young; George C., of this notice; and Eliza, the widow of Edward Green, residing at Oxford. George C. Munns had but little opportunity to go to school as a boy, as he was brought up in a household which valued hard work and which believed that youths should add their mite to the family income. He remained on the home farm until

1863, December 24 of which year he was united in marriage with Mary Shera, of Oxford township, a daughter of John and Margaret Shera, natives of Ireland, who had come to the United States in 1832 and settled in the northern part of Oxford township, Butler county, where they were farming people during the balance of their lives. They had five children: Eliza, deceased; Mary E., who became Mrs. Munns; Caleb and William, bankers at Oxford; and James, deceased. Mrs. Munns, a woman of many excellencies of mind and heart and a favorite with the many people who knew her, died March 27, 1912. She had two daughters, both of whom died young. Following his marriage in 1863, Mr. Munns established himself in the livery business at Oxford, where he also had a lumber and grocery business, in both of which he made a success during the six years that he was so engaged. Eventually he turned his attention to banking and opened a private bank with Joshua Fry, this being known as the Oxford bank. Later, with the Shera brothers, Caleb and William, he formed a partnership in a private enterprise known as Munns, Shera & company, which was continued successfully for nine years. Eventually Mr. Munns became the prime mover in the founding and establishment of the Oxford National bank, of which he has since been vice-president, the president being George C. Welliver and the cashier Caleb Shera. Mr. Munns is interested in other directions, particularly in real estate, in which he has large holdings and carries on large transactions. He is highly esteemed in business circles and as a public official who has filled various township offices with ability and conscientiousness. Mr. Munns is a Republican, was formerly an Odd Fellow, and is an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Seth Murdock. In Oxford township, one of the venerable and highly esteemed agriculturists is Seth Murdock, who has passed his entire life on the property on which he now resides with his sister, Hester, who is also well known and greatly respected in the community. Seth Murdock was born on his present farm in Oxford township, in 1841, a son of John S. and Jane (Hanley) Murdock, the former born in Trumbull county, Ohio, and the latter in Greene county, N. Y. Mrs. Murdock came with her parents down the Ohio river, when six weeks old, the family first locating at Cincinnati and later moving to Oxford township. John S. Murdock was a blacksmith by trade, who had fought as a soldier during the War of 1812, and was the father of thirteen children, of whom two sons, William and Noble, were soldiers of the Union Army, during the Civil war. John S. Murdock, father of Seth, was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, a son of Asahel and Elizabeth (Starkweather) Murdock, who were married February 28, 1779. In addition to John S., there were the following children: Jerusha, Nabby, Thomas, Lucy, Andrew, Tamson, Harriet and Eliza. The family had removed from Connecticut to Vermont and then to Trumbull county, Ohio, coming later, in 1819, to Oxford township, Butler county, and settling on the farm now owned by Seth Murdock. Asahel Murdock was a Revolutionary patriot and served seven years in General Washington's forces. John S. and Jane (Hanley) Murdock were the parents of the follow-

ing children: Andrew, deceased; George, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of Frederick Irvin and had four children, Willard, who is married, Enna, the wife of Louis Worley, with two sons (Frank and John), Monroe and Homer; John, deceased; Seth, of this notice; Albert, deceased; Hester; Mary, deceased, who married Math Byers and had five children, Will who married Stella Morton, Bertha who married Albert Kerns, Della who married Thomas Woodruff, Beatrice who married John Fouts, and Chester; William, deceased; Calvin, deceased, who married May Veakle, deceased, and has two children, Sadie who married John Zimmerman, and Lydia who married Thomas Smith; Anna, who married John Venkle, both deceased, having one child, Martha who married O. Cullin; and Martha. Seth Murdock and his sister Hester received their educational training in the country schools, and both grew up at the old home place, the youth being trained in the various arts of husbandry, while the maiden was carefully taught the duties of domesticity. They have always made their home on the old place where they were born, with the exception that Seth was absent for several years while serving as a soldier of the Union Army in the 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war under Col. Thomas Moore. Their lives have been passed together in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and both have remained single, being the last of a long line of worthy people. During their long lives here, they have formed and retained many friendships and no people in Oxford township are more greatly esteemed and respected.

Harry Murphy. In addition to the gratifying financial returns received from the intelligent operation of his fertile farm in Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, Harry Murphy, who is one of the most widely known agriculturists in that section, has found stock raising to be decidedly profitable, his observations and experiences having taught him that the raising of live stock involves a thorough knowledge of breeding and the result is that he has become known as one of the really up-to-date stock raisers in Liberty township. A native of Liberty township he grew to manhood in this locality and is now occupying the same farm on which he was born. He was one of six children of Peter and Cyrena (Van Gordon) Murphy, the other children being Sallie Maria, Louis D., Corie E., William E. and Judge Clarence. The father was born in Butler county in 1820 and became prominent in numerous activities besides farming. He was one of the best informed men of that community on the early history of Butler county and throughout his life was active in developing the agricultural and commercial growth of the county. He passed his boyhood days on the farm and was educated in the old pioneer log school of Liberty township. After his marriage he began housekeeping in an old log cabin on his father's farm and resided there four years. He conducted a store in Princeton, Butler county, two years and in 1851 was elected sheriff of Butler county. He discharged the duties of this office with characteristic aggressiveness. At the end of his term of office he purchased land near Princeton and engaged in farming and stock raising with much success. In 1886 he

moved to Hamilton, Ohio, and was prominent in the organizing of the Miami Valley bank, being elected president of this institution and continuing in that post until his death in 1897. For fourteen years previous to 1886 he was a director in the First National bank of that place. He had always taken a deep interest in politics, being a staunch Democrat who was alive to the best interests of his party. Accordingly, in appreciation of his worth as a party worker and estimable citizen the Democrats of his district nominated him for state senator. He was elected by a large majority and served in the state legislature two years. Upon his retirement from active politics he was elected a director of the Union Central Life Insurance company, in which capacity he continued for several years. He was also president, vice-president and secretary of the Butler County Board of Agriculture. He had membership in the Odd Fellows and was a Mason. Harry Murphy received his education in the schools of Liberty township. After leaving school he engaged in farming with his father until he married Miss Inez Vinnedge, daughter of Franklin R. Vinnedge, when he took up farming for himself. One child was born to this couple, Miss Helen, who became the wife of Arthur Sohngen and is the mother of one child, Mary Helen. Mr. Murphy is a Democrat and was trustee of Liberty township nine years. On his well improved farm stands one of the most beautiful homes in Liberty township.

Charles F. Myers. A progressive and enterprising representative of the agricultural interests of Butler county, Charles F. Myers dates his connection with his present farm, formerly the Simon Goldman place, in Madison township, section 1, to the year 1908. During a somewhat varied career in farming, Mr. Myers has known both fortune and misfortune, but out of his experience he has built up a helpful philosophy of life which has enabled him to have a cheerful outlook and has helped to establish him in public favor and confidence. Mr. Myers was born near Germantown, Montgomery county, O., April 29, 1862, a son of Philip and Julia Ann (Sliffer) Myers, natives of Maryland. The father came to Ohio as a youth of eighteen years, his first location being at Dayton, where he followed the trade of tailor. While he was successful as a follower of this vocation, the call of the soil was irresistible, and he eventually settled on Brown's Run, where he was married, and engaged in farming. He continued as a tiller of the soil until the time of his retirement, when he moved to town, and there his death occurred March 1, 1916, at the age of eighty-two years. Mrs. Myers had passed away in 1910, at the age of seventy years, in the faith of the United Brethren church. There were four children in the family of Philip Myers: Francis; Christy, who married Charles H. Haines, of Dayton; Charles F.; and William Ellsworth, who is engaged in farming in Montgomery county. Charles F. Myers attended the district schools in the vicinity of the home farm in Montgomery county, and at the age of fourteen years became self-supporting by starting to work out, thus continuing for four years. At that time he formed a household of his own when he married Mary Moyer, born northwest of Middletown, Butler county, a daughter of John Moyer. To this union there was born one child,

who died in infancy. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Myers located on the Benjamin Harris farm in Montgomery county for one year, and subsequently came to Butler county and for a like period resided on the Barcelow farm. Returning to Montgomery county, they spent one year on the J. D. Carney place, and then for eight months lived in Madison township, Butler county, this being followed by four years of residence on the Robert Faust farm. Mr. Myers then bought the J. P. Shafer place of seventy-five acres, Lemon township, near Poast Town, and was making good headway with chances for success very bright when the flood of the spring of 1898 washed him completely out. Mr. Myers had worked hard for what he possessed, and it was a bitter blow to see the work of a lifetime flooded away within a few short hours. Not only did he lose all that he possessed, but he was placed $6,000 in debt. For some men this would have meant complete failure and final discouragement, but Mr. Myers possessed the persistence and determination necessary to begin anew his struggle for a fortune, and his courage and resource have been rewarded by the securing of a competence. When he made a fresh start after the flood, it was on the Robinson place, which he farmed for ten years. In 1908 he again became a proprietor when he bought ninety-eight acres in section 1, Madison township, where he has since made his home. This property, formerly known as the Simon Goldman place, is one and one-quarter miles northeast of Poast Town, and under Mr. Myers' energetic and well-directed management has been made one of the model farms of the community. He has spent no little effort in making improvements, and in addition to installing much new equipment and modern machinery, has remodeled the residence and barn and erected several substantial outbuildings. The soil is in a good state of cultivation and responds generously to the skilled and energetic treatment of Mr. Myers, who is accounted one of the most capable general farmers of his locality. Mr. Myers is an independent voter, and takes but little part in politics, nor has he cared for public office. He is a good citizen, however, and has supported worth-while movements which have been placed before him and his fellow-citizens for the community's general welfare. Mr. and Mrs. Myers are widely known in Butler county, where they have many friends.

Daniel W. Myers. Among the representative agriculturists of Butler county who have attained to success through long years of cultivation of the soil, one whose career has been rewarded by prosperity is Daniel W. Myers, owner of a valuable property of 145 acres located on the Jacksonboro road. Mr. Myers is a son of Benjamin and Catherine (Hoover) Myers, natives of Maryland, who migrated to Ohio, where they passed their last years on a farm. They were the parents of eight sons and two daughters, of whom all the sons are deceased, except Daniel W.; and Rev. David E., chaplain of the Soldiers' home at Marion, Ind.; the daughters being Nancy, deceased, who was the wife of William Tickle; and Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of Jacob Title. Daniel W. Myers received a public school education and from early manhood has been engaged in farming. He is now the owner of what is known as the Gov. J. M.

Cox homestead, on Jacksonboro road, not far from West Middletown, where he has 145 acres under a high state of cultivation. He is a scientific and practical farmer and devotes his acres to raising grain and stock, and in both departments has met with success by reason of his great industry and good management. His standing in his community is an excellent one, both from the viewpoint of integrity in business matters and public-spirit in community movements and affairs. He is a Democrat, politically, and he and the members of his family belong to the United Brethren church. August 15, 1864, Mr. Myers married Laura V. Wingard, of Marion, Ind., and four children were born to this union: Martin, Arthur, Will and Milton. Arthur resides on the home place with his parents and is associated with his father in the conduct of the farm. Milton O. is a resident of Middletown and collector for a large furniture house. William is a resident of Miamisburg, where he is manager for the Engleman & Waters Flour mill.

W. R. Myers, an undertaker, of Shandon, Ohio, and a son of Daniel and Anna Eliza (Morris) Myers, was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, February 26, 1860. Daniel Myers, the father, was born on a farm in Crosby township, Anna Myers, his mother, was born in Morgan township, Butler county. Daniel Myers was the son of John and Mary Myers, the former came with his father to Butler county when twelve years old, settling on the farm now occupied by his grandson, W. R. Myers, the subject of this biography. John Myers enlisted in the War of 1812, and saw active service. To him and his wife were born the following children: William, Henry, Jacob, Daniel, father of W. R. Myers; Adam and Joseph. Daniel Myers and wife lived in Hamilton county, and were parents of several children, ten of whom reached maturity: Mary, who became Mrs. Henry Williamson of Connersville; James, unmarried; Brunett, who married William McHenry, of Lima, Ohio; Orion W., known as Sam, now deceased; John, also deceased; William, the subject of this sketch; Joseph, who is deceased, married Leota Hill. George, now of Cincinnati; Evelyn, now the wife of Mr. Hover; Edward, also deceased, and who married Fannie Gwaltney. A son, Howard, of Mary (Myers) Williamson, was drowned off the Philippine Islands, while serving in the Spanish-American war. W. R. Myers at the age of sixteen years, left school, and learned the blacksmith trade, and entered into business at Harrison, Ohio. Later he engaged in the undertaking business and in partnership with another, opened a shop in Shandon, and eventually took over the entire business, and today his establishment is one of the best in the state. He is a licensed embalmer, and in his establishment is to be found all the modern equipments, including that of motor conveyances, for the conducting of funerals. In 1898 he was married to Edith McHenry, a daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Atherton) McHenry, who lived in Hamilton county, and who died several years ago. Their children are: Ora, deceased, who was a doctor; Ella, now Mrs. Albert English; Edith, wife of W. R. Myers; Lowry, a prominent physician of Hamilton, Ohio. To W. R. Myers and wife has been born one son, Daniel, now thirteen years of age. In politics,

Mr. Myers is a Democrat. He is active in Masonic, Pythian and I. O. O. F. circles. He was captain of all the war drive teams in his precinct. The family belongs to the United Brethren church.

Charles W. McClung. Under modern conditions and organization, one of the most important organizations in the municipal service of a city the size of Hamilton is the fire department, and its management requires rare abilities of an executive nature, good diplomatic powers in the handling of large numbers of men so that the large machine may run without retarding friction, the bravery of a fearless soldier and the broad judgment of an able general. All of these traits are possessed by Charles W. McClung, chief of the city fire department of Hamilton, who has advanced through the different grades to his present position from that of driver. Chief McClung was born on a farm in Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of John and Elizabeth McClung, the former a native of Baltimore county, Md., and the latter of Pennsylvania. They came to Ohio as young people and here met and married, following which they settled on a farm in Liberty township and there rounded out long and honorable careers, the father combining his farming labors with those of his duties as a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. Charles W. McClung received his education at the Oak Hill schoolhouse, in Liberty township, and commenced his career as a farm hand. At the time he attained his majority, he began farming on his own account, and continued to be thus engaged until 1891, when he moved to Bethany, Ohio, and engaged in the butcher business. He followed that for six years, and then moved to Hamilton. Chief McClung joined the "fire laddies" in 1897, as a driver out of Engine Station No. 2, and for three years served faithfully and rose through the intermediate grades to captain, in 1903. For several years more he fought fires and took an important part in the administration of the department under his superiors, and was then made marshal, on December 22, 1905. January 15, 1918, he was made chief of the department, a position in which he has since remained. The chief of the Hamilton Fire Department is a vigorous, wide-awake, experienced man, and promises to maintain the service of which he is the head at its past standard of superiority, and incorporate into the system the methods and improvements indicated by the advancements of mechanics and science. He is a Democrat in his political adherence, and his fraternal affiliations include membership in the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Chief McClung married Doretta Eisel, daughter of the late Chas. F. Eisel, one of Hamilton's leading business men. They have no children.

Frank McCord. The energy and business ability of Frank McCord have built up a furniture business at Oxford which compares favorably with the best concerns of the kind in larger and more thickly settled communities. The owner has a thorough knowledge of his occupation, sufficient courage to weather inevitable depressions in trade and sufficient wisdom to realize that only by maintaining a high standard can he hope for uniform and continued success. As a citizen he ranks high among the men of his town. Mr.

McCord came to Oxford, May 3, 1866, from Cincinnati, Ohio. His father, Joseph S. McCord, was born near Carlisle, Cumberland county, Pa., and his mother, Catherine A. Moorehead, was born ten miles east of Erie, Pa., on the old Buffalo road. She was a daughter of Col. James M. Moorehead, for whom Mooresville, Pa., was named, he being one of the early settlers on Lake Erie. As a youth he played with the Indian boys of that region, became an athlete of noted prowess, and during the War of 1812, had charge of troops stationed on Lake Erie. He was a well-to-do agriculturist, owned a large tract of land, and was likewise one of the prominent and influential men of his day and locality, and took an active part in the various movements which served to help the section. Joseph S. McCord was born on a farm and educated in the public schools and as a youth learned the trade of cabinet maker. Feeling that better opportunities awaited him in other localities, he walked to Pittsburg, where he secured employment as a ship carpenter and engineer between Pittsburg and New Orleans. In the meantime two of his brothers had gone to Cincinnati, where one was a merchant tailor and the other a carpenter, and the latter Mr. McCord subsequently joined, the two engaging in contract work, principally in the building of residences and schools. In 1866, retiring from business, he located at Oxford. He became well known and highly respected, took an active part in educational work, was a trustee of Miami university and Western college, and was likewise a great church worker of the Presbyterian faith. In the summer of 1871, following the destruction by fire of Western college, Mr. McCord and Philip Hinkle of Cincinnati, rebuilt the building and completed the work in excellent manner. He was also a member of the town council for a number of years and did much to build up and improve his community in various ways. He died in November, 1879, aged sixty-six years, while Mrs. McCord passed away in 1886, at the same age. They were the parents of three children: Frank, of this review; Jennie, who attended Western college two years, became the wife of Rev. John Reed Shannon of the Methodist Episcopal church and died in 1914; and Elizabeth, born at Cincinnati, a graduate of Western college, who has since lived with her brother. Frank McCord was educated in the common schools and Miami university, and also attended Wabash college at Crawfordsville, Ind., for a short time, and then went west. Owing to the poor state of his father's health he soon returned, and after the death of the elder man settled his estate. After an experience of one year in the grocery business, in 1891 he established himself in his present line, and has since been in the enjoyment of a constantly increasing business. Mr. McCord has supplied an element of strength and substantiality to Oxford for the past four decades, and has been one of the most interested as well as active observers of its developing prosperity. The family is Presbyterian and has been strongly identified with the temperance movement from its beginning. The family is well and favorably known in Butler county, where its members have numerous warm friends.

Walter M. McCoy. In every large community all lines of busi-

ness endeavor are represented, and all require different grades and qualities of ability to prosecute them properly. No line of work requires more tact or greater consideration for the feelings of others than does that connected with undertaking and funeral directing. Walter M. McCoy of Middletown is a leading representative of this line of business, and not only possesses in full degree the qualities noted, but also has the equipment supplied him by splendid training, as he has had instruction in no less than eight schools of embalming. Mr. McCoy was born in 1878, at New Holland, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Irene (Haggard) McCoy, and a grandson of Alexander McCoy, who came from Ireland in young manhood and located at Chillicothe, Ohio, where Joseph McCoy was born July 4, 1853. Joseph McCoy was a carriage maker by trade and followed that business for a number of years, retiring but a short time prior to his demise. Walter M. McCoy received a public school education, and as a young man started to learn the business of undertaking. He thoroughly prepared himself by study in the best schools of embalming, and after twelve years of business experience elsewhere, came to Middletown in 1907, on August 27 of which year he bought an interest in the undertaking business of Emil Rathman. For five years they were associated in this establishment, but in 1912 Mr. McCoy became sole owner of the business through purchase and has since conducted it alone. He has every equipment necessary for dignified and reverent funeral directing, and has been successful in business ventures because he possesses the qualities which bring success—good judgment, business faculty, a high sense of honor and a just appreciation of the rights of others. He is one of the leaders of his vocation in the state, and is the newly elected president of the Ohio Funeral Directors' association, and an untiring organization worker. His present business has been built through his efforts from a modest unassuming enterprise to one of the largest in the city. Mr. McCoy was married July 19, 1899, to Mary V., daughter of Oliver and Ella (Jones) Cory, the former of Frankfort, Ohio, and the latter of Greenfield, this state. They have one son, John Paul, born July 27, 1908. Fraternally, Mr. McCoy is affiliated with the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Eagles and the Knights of Pythias. He is a Republican, although liberal in his views, and his religious connection and that of his wife is with the Presbyterian church.

William E. McCoy. Many years of industrious and worthy connection with the agricultural interests of Butler county have served to place William E. McCoy in the substantial class of farmer citizens of this fertile and prosperous part of the Miami valley. During the period of his activities here, it has been his fortune to have so directed his labors as to have reaped the material rewards of a life of industry, and at the same time his affairs have been managed in a manner that has gained for him the well-merited respect of his fellow-citizens. Mr. McCoy was born on a farm in Oxford township, Butler county, March 3, 1856, a son of Samuel McCoy. Samuel McCoy was a native of Pennsylvania and was still a boy when he came with his parents to Ohio, where his earliest employment was found on the canal. Here he was married to Miranda, daughter of Gideon

Wilkinson, an early settler of section 3, Reily township, who was a substantial farmer. Gideon Wilkinson married Mary DeCamp, and their children were: Rachael, Abigail, Addie, Miranda, Marion, John, James, Hattie, Amadore and Ella, the last-named of whom is the only one now living. The brothers of Samuel McCoy were Charles and Theo, and he also had a sister, Maggie. Samuel McCoy received a common school education, and after marriage took up farming in Oxford township, whence he eventually moved to Reily township and there rounded out a long and useful career in section 10. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, as was Mrs. McCoy, who survived him some years and died in April, 1916, aged seventy-eight. They had eight children: William E., of this notice; Gideon, a farmer in Oxford township; Ella; Bert, who lives at College Corner; John, a farmer in Reily township; Anna, who married James Morris of Hamilton; Gertrude, the wife of William Hopkins of Franklin county, Ind.; and George, who resides at Reily, Ohio. William E. McCoy secured his educational training in the public schools, and resided at home until he reached the age of twenty-one years, at which time he was married to Maggie B., daughter of Samuel Garner, of Reily township, who died November 11, 1911. To this union there were born five children: Fred, a farmer of Reily township, who married Anna Conrad and has two children, Mildred and Thelma; Pearl, the wife of David Anstedt, of Los Angeles, Calif., who has two children, Paul and Hazel; Lizzie, the wife of Edward Nein, of Middletown, Ohio, who has two sons, Lyman and Gordon; Addie, the wife of Peter Conrad, of Toledo, Ohio, who has one son, Earl; and Myrtle, who resides with her father. Following his marriage, Mr. McCoy settled on his present farm in Reily township, where he has 340 acres of valuable and well-cultivated land. He carries on general farming and raises all kinds of stock, and has made a success of his operations through hard work and intelligent application of modern methods. He is a good citizen and a Democratic voter, but has been content to devote himself to his farm and has never had any aspirations of a public nature. He is well and favorably known in his part of the county, where his friends are numerous.

Edward Weaver McCracken, who, since his arrival at Middletown in 1911, has been in the service of the American Rolling Mill, is firmly established as a reliable and useful citizen, as well as a property owner, and resides in his own home at No. 414 Sulphur avenue. Mr. McCracken was born near Pittsburg, Pa., May 26, 1881, a son of Joseph Drummond and Mary Jane (Kreps) McCracken. He comes of fighting stock on both sides of the family, as his father and two of the latter's brothers were soldiers during the Civil war, as were also four brothers of his mother. Mrs. McCracken died August 8, 1908, while the father survived until July, 1918. They were the parents of six children: Edward Weaver; William, a resident of West Virginia; Marion, of Pennsylvania: John Barr, who lives in Indiana; Maud, now Mrs. George Kline, of Pennsylvania; and George, also of that state. Edward W. McCracken received his education in the public schools of his native

community, and, being given the opportunity of learning a useful trade, chose his career accordingly, and began at the bottom of the ladder, gradually working his way upward. For several years he was employed in mills at Buffalo, whence he came to Middletown in 1911 and entered the American Rolling mills. Since coming to Middletown he has bought his own home at No. 414 Sulphur avenue, in addition to which he is holding another residence at Idlewild, east of Middletown. Mr. McCracken is a man of splendid intellect, a great reader and a man of fine character. He married Selma, daughter of August E. and Emma (Yoss) Schneider, and granddaughter of John and Anna (Dubey) Schneider, of Switzerland. Mrs. McCracken has two brothers and two sisters: Adelia, Leonard, Esther and Roy. She is a graduate nurse of a Pittsburg hospital and a woman of numerous accomplishments. She and her husband are members of the Presbyterian church. He is non-partisan in politics, and is fraternally affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Masons.

John H. McCray. Among the men to whom the thriving town of College Corner, Ohio, is indebted for its present prosperity and high standing among the business communities of this part of the Miami valley, none is deserving of more credit for what he has accomplished than is John H. McCray. Through his progressive spirit and industrious enterprise, the town is in possession of an excellent telephone system and has splendid electric lighting facilities, and it was also Mr. McCray who backed the big fight in the courts necessary to secure the granting and locating of the McCray ditch, a public utility which has been of the greatest service. Mr. McCray was born in June, 1849, in Center township, Union county, Ind., a son of John McCray, and a grandson of Phineas McCray, of Pennsylvania, who came as a pioneer to Poast Town, Ohio, and later moved to Connersville, Ind., in 1812. He was engaged in farming there, but later moved to Union county, Ind., where he rounded out the years of a long and honorable career. John McCray grew up in Fayette county, Ind., in a family of eight children, and there received an ordinary education. In 1847 he went to Union county, Ind., where he secured land and made a home, and his entire life was passed in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. He was a Democrat and a good citizen, but never desired public office. Mr. McCray married Eliza Hueston, of Pennsylvania, a daughter of John Hueston, of Ireland, who came to the United States in young manhood and settled later in Fayette county, Ind., where he passed his life in farming. Of his eight children, all are deceased. John McCray died in 1865, at the age of sixty-one years, while Mrs. McCray passed away in 1873, when sixty-eight years of age. They were the parents of four children: Samuel, who died in infancy; Joseph, who made his home with his brother, John H., and died in 1911; Lucinda, deceased; and John H. John H. McCray was given only limited educational advantages, but made the most of them, and when he was sixteen years of age, at the time of his father's death, entered upon his own career. He remained on the old home place and continued farming until 1913, in which year he gave up active work as a farmer

and raiser of stock, and took up his residence at College Corner, where he began operating a meat market. In the meantime he had been the reorganizer of the telephone company, the other owners of which he bought out in 1905, and since that time has been president of the company, which has given the people excellent service under his management. In 1917 he organized the company for the installing of the College Corner electric light plant, of which he is now the owner, and which also renders competent service to the public. Mr. McCray is the owner of three fine farms in Union county, Ind., the operations on which he supervises, as well as of his own home, a modern residence built by him in 1912, and the McCray block, built in 1894. In 1913 he began agitating what became known as the McCray ditch, the petition of which was started in 1914. This developed into a joint state and county affair, causing much controversy and litigation, but Mr. McCray waged a successful fight in the Ohio and Indiana courts, and the ditch was finally put through in 1919, and contract let for its completion in 1920. He has always been an ardent supporter of all measures and movements calculated to be of benefit to College Corner and the vicinity, and for several years was president of the First National bank of College Corner. He is an independent voter.

W. H. McCurley. Within the pages of this history will be found reference to many of those sterling citizens who have done well their part in furthering and upholding the prestige of Butler county in the domain of agricultural and live stock enterprises, and such an one is Mr. McCurley, to whose career further interest is given by reason of his being a native son of the county and a representative of one of its honored pioneer families. Though he has now passed the psalmist's span of three score years and ten, he is still vigorous of mind and physical powers and continues to give his personal supervision to his fine farm, of 172 acres, in Fairfield township. Mr. McCurley was born on a pioneer farm in Ross township, Butler county, and the date of his nativity was August 16, 1846. His parents, James and Jane McCurley, were born and reared in Pennsylvania, where their marriage was solemnized and where their first three children were born. In company with his wife and their three children, James McCurley came to Butler county in an early day and settled in Ross township, where he rented land and continued farm operations until about the year 1854. He then removed with his family to Shelby county, Ind., where both he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. They became the parents of six children, two of whom died shortly after coming to Ohio. The remaining four were taken to Pennsylvania after the death of their parents, and cared for in the homes of their kinsfolk in that state. Of the children only two are now living—the subject of this review, and Stephen, the latter being a resident of Batavia, Mich. He whose name introduces this sketch received his early education in the pioneer schools of Shelby county, Ind., and the common schools of Pennsylvania, to which state he was taken by relatives after the death of his parents. In the old Keystone state he was indentured, or "bound out" to a farmer, and he thus continued his services until

he had attained to the age of fourteen years, when he returned to Butler county, Ohio, and made his home with his aunt, Mrs. Mary Ann Holms, who gave him further opportunity for attending school. He was not yet fifteen years old at the outbreak of the Civil war, but his boyish patriotism was roused to the fullest extent and he made every possible effort to enlist for service in the Union army. After several unsuccessful essays of this kind he took decisive action and by his own initiative made his way to Cincinnati, enlisted in U. S. navy for one year and was in connection with the operation of gunboats on the Mississippi river—a service in which he continued during the time of enlistment. After the war Mr. McCurley was employed for a year as clerk in the general store of T. I. Boal, at Venice, Butler county, and he then went to Mahoning county, where he served as deputy county recorder during the regime of his brother. To fortify himself further for the active duties and responsibilities of life, he thereafter completed a course of study in a commercial college in the city of Pittsburg, Pa., and after the passing of several years he returned to Butler county, Ohio, and again found employment in the Boal general store at Venice. He was twenty-five years of age at the time of his marriage, and soon after this important event in his life he engaged in independent farming operations in Ross township. Two years later he removed thence to his present home farm, in Fairfield township, and the success that here attended his earnest and industrious efforts was attested by his purchasing the property after he had rented the place for a number of years. During the long intervening period he has here stood forth as an able and popular exponent of agricultural and live stock industry, and he has always kept in touch with the march of progress, by availing himself of scientific methods and the most approved mechanical accessories in the prosecution of his farm operations. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and his civic loyalty in community affairs has been shown in his effective service as a member of the school board of his district. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church in the village of Venice, a few miles distant from their attractive farm home. In 1871 Mr. McCurley wedded Miss Almira Brown, who was born and reared in Butler county and who is a daughter of Daniel and Catherine Brown. In conclusion is given a brief record concerning the children of Mr. and Mrs. McCurley: Miss Carrie remains at the parental home; Martha is the wife of Thomas Bruin, and they have two children, Olin and Harold; Hazel is the widow of Albert Messler, and their one child is a son, Myron; Orel J. married Miss Carolyn Louise Thayer, in Calif., and they have two children, William H. and Robert Thayer; Chas. Brown married Miss Elizabeth Baumann, and they have three children, Calvin, Almira and Thelma.

Alexander G. McDill. Among the citizens of College Corner who have laid aside business cares for the peace and comfort of retirement is Alexander G. McDill, who for many years was widely and favorably known in the milling business. Mr. McDill was born June 26, 1863, in Preble county, Ohio, a son of Thomas C. McDill. The first of the McDill family to come to America was the great-

grandfather of Alexander G. McDill, Thomas McDill, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, who left his native home twelve miles from Belfast and sought his fortune in South Carolina, where his death occurred. His son, Thomas McDill, was born in South Carolina and as a young married man came to Preble county and settled in the vicinity of Hopewell church, which was organized in 1808 in the barn of David McDill. The members of this family were all great church workers, and Mollie Young, who married Thomas McDill, was one of the charter members of the church and the last one to be buried there. She and her husband were the parents of the following children: John, who resided in South Carolina; David, who lived near Morning Sun, Ohio; Thomas C., the father of Alexander G.; James, who went to Illinois, where he died; Alexander, who died in South Carolina; Samuel, who located in Union county, Ind., in 1816 and married there; and Margaret, Peggie and Jennie. Martin McDill located at Morning Sun, Ohio, as did sister Janet. John lived on the old home place, and married Janet Simpson of New York, who died leaving three children, Samuel and George, deceased, and Elida A., who always lived on the home place. After the death of his first wife, John McDill married Eliza J. McCracken, and both died on the home farm. Thomas C. McDill was born in 1801 in South Carolina, and was eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Preble county, the family settling on an unimproved farm in Israel township. There the lad assisted his father in clearing and cultivating the land, in the meantime attending the public school. He was brought up in a God-fearing household, for his parents were devout members of the Hopewell church, for the building of which modest little edifice, his father had the distinction of having cut the first log. Mr. McDill passed his life as a farmer and millman in Israel township, where his death occurred in 1881. He married Mary Paxton, of that township, a member of the United Presbyterian church, and they had four sons: Thomas Albert, who is living in retirement at Oxford; Charles Robert, deceased, who was in the milling business at Jamestown, Ohio; Walter, deceased, who was a foreman in the twine mill at Jamestown for a quarter of a century; and Alexander G. Alexander G. McDill was educated in the home schools, and in 1882 went to Springfield, where he secured employment with Worden & Bonnett, a concern with which he continued to be identified for five years. Next he went to Cedarville, Ohio, where for nine years he was in the milling business with his brother, Thomas Albert McDill, and then located at Oxford, where for nine years he was in business as a contractor. Mr. McDill eventually located at College Corner, where he built the Model Rolling mill, of 100-barrel capacity and continued to conduct it for eighteen years, then selling out his interests. In 1912, he built the Oxford mill, in which he still owns an interest, and in addition is the owner of a farm property of 160 acres lying west of College Corner. During his active career Mr. McDill established an excellent reputation for integrity, and has always been known as a good and useful citizen. In political matters he supports the Republican party, and his church affiliation is with the United Presbyterians. Mr. McDill married

Gertrude Slicker, of College Corner, and they are the parents of: Mabel, who married A. A. Buck, a farmer, bookkeeper and rural free delivery mail carrier of College Corner, and has a son, Harold; Laura, who died at the age of twelve years; and Nellie, who lives with her parents.

Michael D. McGrath. An illustration of the development of a modern commercial enterprise from small beginnings to large proportions is found in the history of the New York Rackett store, at Hamilton. The proprietor of this establishment, Michael D. McGrath, in the work of building up this enterprise, has displayed the possession of business qualities of a high character and in spite of several discouraging setbacks has kept persistently active and energetic until he is now well on the road to a position among the successful business men of his community. Mr. McGrath was born at Brant, Campbell county, Ky., September 13, 1881, a son of James and Mary (Deviney) McGrath, natives of that state, where the mother died and where the father still survives, a retired farmer. There were two sons and three daughters in the family: Thomas, who was associated with the firm of Sears, Roebuck & company, as head of its jewelry department at Hamilton until the United States entered the Great war, at which time he joined the medical corps of the U. S. Army, and was subsequently badly wounded in action and gassed twice during the Meuse Argonne offensive; Susan, who is a Mother Superior in a convent at Cleveland; May, who is a Sister in the convent at Mount St. Martins, Newport, Ky.; Jane, who is married to a stockman of Rushville, Ind., and has one child; and Michael. Michael McGrath is indebted to the public school at Cold Spring, Ky., for his educational training, and his boyhood was passed on his father's farm in Campbell county. He was but sixteen years of age when he enlisted for service during this country's war with Spain, joining Company M, 6th Kentucky Infantry, with which he served for fifteen months, coming through his engagements unscathed. When he received his honorable discharge, he went to Cincinnati and for one and one-half years worked at the trade of moulder, but eventually turned his attention to commercial pursuits, entering the employ of Mr. Snow, who was at that time proprietor of the New York Rackett store at Hamilton. In January, 1913, Mr. McGrath purchased the interests of his employer, becoming sole proprietor of the business, which he owned when occurred the disastrous flood of the same year. His loss in that catastrophe amounted to $7,000, a serious blow to one just starting business on his own account, but this failed to discourage him. On the contrary, when he resumed business, it was with an enlarged and greatly improved establishment, which has been adding to its patronage annually ever since. The success of his Hamilton venture led Mr. McGrath to enlarge the scope of his activities, and he is now also proprietor of a branch store at Middletown, also known as the New York Rackett store, which is under the management of Carl Wedekind. Mr. McGrath is favorably known in business circles because of his integrity and promptness in business engagements, and is a popular and active member of the Hamilton Retail Merchants' association. He belongs also to

the Knights of Columbus and he and his family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church. Mr. McGrath was united in matrimony at Mattoon, Ill., to Miss Wilhelmina Bunning, of that place, and they are the parents of five children, the three eldest of whom attend St. Mary's parochial school at Hamilton; William, aged fourteen years; Lucille, aged nine years; Francis, aged seven years; Eugene, aged four years, and Paul, an infant. Another child, James, lost his life in an automobile accident at the age of ten years.

E. L. McIntosh, D. V. M. In the practice of veterinary surgery, Dr. E. L. McIntosh, of Oxford, has exercised a natural talent for his calling and the skill that has come through long and thorough specialized training, and has built up an excellent patronage in Butler and the surrounding counties, and is accounted a man of marked capability. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, a son of James C. McIntosh, of the same county, and a grandson of Thomas McIntosh, who was an early settler of that county, near Wellsville, the family being of Scotch-Irish origin. James C. McIntosh was a farmer who also had extensive lumber interests, and was active in civic affairs as a Republican, serving six years as a member of the board of county commissioners. He was a member of the United Presbyterian church, to which also belonged his wife, who was Martha Shafer, whose people were early settlers of Columbiana county, Ohio. They were the parents of six children: Ida, at home; Thomas A., a druggist at Wellsville; Alexander H., owner of a lumber business and saw mill in Columbiana county; Edwin L., who was born December 1, 1875; Ella H., who married Harry H. Laughlin; and James C., jr., engaged in farming on the old home place. E. L. McIntosh was educated in the home schools and subsequently took a course in pharmacy at Valparaiso, following which he engaged in the drug business at Wellsville, in which he continued for eight years. He then took a course in veterinary surgery at Cincinnati, in 1908, and established himself in practice at Harrison, Ohio, but after two years took up his residence and practice at Oxford, where he has since remained. He is now possessed of an excellent patronage and occupies a leading place in his vocation. He has a modern home on West Spring street, his property consisting of five acres of land, on which he has made numerous improvements. Personally, he is a man who has made and held numerous friendships. In politics he is a Republican, and as a fraternalist affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. McIntosh was married in 1902 to Ruth, daughter of Edward and Maria (Ladler) Bader, the former of whom died at Oxford and the latter a resident of Toledo. To this union there were born three children: Martha Mary, James Edwin and Helen Louise. Mrs. McIntosh is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is active in its work.

William Curtis McIntosh. Among the more recent additions to the working force employed at the enormous plant of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, is found William Curtis McIntosh, who since 1915 has been on the company's payroll in the capacity of heater. A young man of energetic habits and excellent personal character, since his arrival at Middletown, he has not only suc-

ceeded in gaining and holding the respect and confidence of his employers, but has also made numerous friendships which bid fair to last a lifetime. Mr. McIntosh is a West Virginian by nativity, born at Mason, January 22, 1882. His parents, William C. and Isabel (Long) McIntosh, who still survive, are residents of Mason and among that little city's highly esteemed people. To the public schools of his native place, Mr. McIntosh is indebted for his education, and his early training was all along the lines of his present vocation. He was reared in a household which esteemed industry and honesty as among the most sterling of virtues, and the manner of his preparatory instruction gave him respect for labor and taught him the value of a dollar. He thoroughly mastered his chosen trade, and his entire career has been passed in the atmosphere of the steel business. Mr. McIntosh was married September 6, 1913, at Wheeling, W. Va., to Mrs. Bessie B. Shafer, who was born in that city, October 17, 1885. By a former marriage, Mrs. McIntosh is the mother of one daughter, Florence, who is now a student in the Middletown high school. In 1915 Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh came to Middletown, where Mr. McIntosh entered the services of the concern with which he is at present connected, and with which he has since made such a good impression. Since his arrival he has purchased a comfortable and attractive home on Crawford street, which is often visited by the numerous friends of this young couple, who are people of decidedly domestic tastes and who value their home above anything else. However, Mr. McIntosh appreciates the companionship of his fellows, and is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose and the Woodmen of the World, and he and Mrs. McIntosh belong to the Christian church. His political tendencies incline him to be liberal in his views and actions.

Charles E. McKinley, son of John and Sara (Waugh) McKinley, was born in West Virginia, August 5, 1868. The parents were of Scotch-Irish descent, and it is highly probable that they are of the same Clan as that to which the late President McKinley belonged. Charles E. was the second of five children in the family: W. J., now deceased; Charles E.; E. D., now a farmer in Jefferson county, Ohio; Mary B., Mrs. J. S. Nixon, in Jefferson county; Anna J., Mrs. John Lee, in Wellsburg, W. Va. It is quite evident that the patriotic, liberty-loving spirit of his ancestors is inherent in our subject. He enlisted in the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, Rough Riders, at Santa Fe, N. M., May 6, 1898, and is justly proud of the Certificate of Merit issued and presented to him on recommendation of the late President Theo. Roosevelt, then lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, for distinguished services in the Spanish-American war. December 24, 1900, at Greensburgh, Pa., Mr. McKinley was married to Winona Rarigh, born February 1, 1876, in Armstrong county, Pa., and was a daughter of Archibold and Catherine (Nichols) Rarigh. Her parents were of English extraction. The mother died September 26, 1917, her father is still living in Pennsylvania. She had six sisters and brothers: Lenore, Mrs. R. A. McKinney, in Armstrong county, Pa.; Lawrence, in Beaver, Pa.; Claire, deceased; Esmer, living in Tarentum, Pa.; Dolcy, Mrs. Harry

Gilmore; and Ruby, Mrs. George Keyes, in Tarentum. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley are the parents of five children: Dorothy, Marjorie, Richard, Margaret, deceased, Chester Theodore. Dorothy is a graduate of the Middletown High school, class of '19. In 1912, Mr. McKinley moved his family from Vandergriff, Pa., to Middletown, Ohio, and engaged with the American Rolling Mill company as a rougher. He has built a handsome home on Moore street and has closely identified himself with material interests of the city. His individuality, energy and public spirit were made manifest through his great accomplishments in the Liberty bond sales and other war work. Mr. McKinley is a member of the Oakland Presbyterian church, belongs to the Knights of Pythias and holds liberal views in politics.

Isaac McLane, one of the leading real estate dealers of Middletown, has developed a business that yields him a gratifying income, and proves that in entering this line of activity, he found his proper life work. He was born in Franklin, Warren county, Ohio, May 8, 1837, a son of James and Rachel (Dearth) McLane, and grandson of William McLane, who came to Ohio from Virginia in 1805, and after a stop at Monroe, located at Middletown. James McLane was born at Middletown, October 13, 1814, near the present site of the Shartle foundry. He saw the first shovel of dirt thrown out of the the Miami canal, and after it was completed, drove the first boat, the "Sally Jackson." In 1828, with his father, he removed to Franklin, where he established a general store on the corner of River and Sixth streets, and soon thereafter opened the first livery stable in the place. Not only did he make a remarkable record as a business man, but was an inventor as well, and in 1850, completed his hollow roller. Although this venerable gentleman had passed the century milestone several years, on his 104th birthday, October 13, 1918, he was visited by Odd Fellows from all over the country to pay him honor, as he enjoyed the distinction of being the oldest member of his fraternity in the United States, joining it in 1850. He is now deceased, having passed away September 24, 1919. Isaac McLane was reared at home, and attended the schools of Franklin. In 1859, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Shrackengast, a daughter of Asbury and Elizabeth Shrackengast, both natives of Preble county Ohio. There were two children born of this marriage, namely: James Scott, and Eva. In 1885, Mr. McLane was married (second) to Miss Emma Craig, a daughter of Henry and Hannah Craig, natives of Butler county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. McLane have one daughter, Rachel Edna, who is the wife of A. E. Duvall, foreman of the Middletown, Ohio, Machine Company of Middletown. Mr. McLane's services to his community have been very valuable, and are appreciated by his fellow-citizens. Through his enterprise realty values have been increased, outlying districts have been built up, and outside capital has become interested, and it is more than probable that much of the present prosperity of Middletown is directly due to him and his intelligent foresight which enabled him to see so far into the future, combined with his faith in the ultimate development of the little city in which he has spent so many years.

Mrs. Elizabeth F. McLaughlin. Among the highly esteemed residents of Middletown, one who has formed and held many friendships during her residence here is Mrs. Elizabeth F. McLaughlin. She is a native of Hamilton, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Gluhm) Holthaus, the former of whom died October 9, 1905, and the latter December 28, 1918. She was educated in the parochial schools of Hamilton, where she was first married to Joseph Duerr, a son of Frank and Barbara (Ritt) Duerr. Mr. Duerr died June 10, 1892, at Hamilton, leaving his widow with four small children. Although her means were small, her courage was great, and she kept her little flock together. Her eldest daughter, Clara, is now Mrs. C. O. Stansfield, of Urbana, Ohio; John is a resident of Middletown; Lillian is now Mrs. Frank Sauter; and Harry also lives at Middletown. November 12, 1895, Mrs. Duerr married Martin McLaughlin, a native of Sligo, Ireland, who died October 1, 1905, at Middletown. Mr. McLaughlin was one of the most highly respected men of Butler county. He served six years as county commissioner and seven years as township trustee, and his record in office was an excellent one and one which reflected credit upon his ability and his high sense of public duty. At his death his widow was again left with small children: John, Mary, Robert and Martin, of whom Robert is now deceased. Again the courageous woman faced the world with her children, and she now has the pleasure of seeing them established or on their way to being so. Her son John is office manager of the Kuntz Lumber company, of Middletown; her daughter Mary is taking a nurse's course at Mercy Hospital, Hamilton; and her son Martin is attending Holy Trinity school. Mrs. McLaughlin is a woman of fine intellect, womanly qualities and pleasing personality. She is a devout member of Holy Trinity church, and has her own charming home on Harrison avenue, where she is always glad to welcome her many friends.

James Edward McMechan. Butler county is admirably suited for farming and stock raising, not only because of climatic conditions and the fertility of the soil, but also because of its location with regard to transportaiton facilities, thus enabling farmers to find a ready market for their produce, and this is also considered a very important factor in determining agriculturists as to the selection of their land. One of the substantial men of Butler county who has obtained desirable results from the operation of his farm, and who is also well known as a dealer in real estate, is James Edward McMechan, the owner of a valuable property in Wayne township. Mr. McMechan was born February 23, 1867, at Four Mile, St. Clair township, Butler county, a son of James P. McMechan. His grandfather was James McMechan, a native of Ireland, who was an early settler of Butler county and one of the pioneer merchants of Collinsville. He married Mary Brooks, of St. Clair township, daughter of William Brooks, of Pennsylvania, and they became the parents of fourteen children, all of whom grew to maturity and all now deceased. James P. McMechan was born near Collinsville, Ohio, and grew up in Milford township, where he received his education in the home schools. After the death of

his father he farmed the property which the elder man had purchased and took care of his mother until her death. Mr. McMechan married first Ann Crockett, and they became the parents of three children: William, deceased, who lived at Seven Mile, Ohio; and Ellen and Mary, who are also deceased. Mr. McMechan was again married and was the father of two children: William D., a machinist by trade, who resides at Hamilton; and James Edgar. James Edgar McMechan was educated in the home schools and took up farming as his life work when he had grown to maturity. He resided at home until the time of his first marriage, to Miss Anna Pottinger of Symmes Corners, Ohio. Folowing her death, he was united with Edna May Morris, of near Venice, Ohio. Mr. McMechan has two children: Walter James, born July 28, 1915; and Laura Frances, born May 11, 1918. Mr. McMechan has always been a farmer and has resided on several different places in Butler county. In 1906, he took up his residence and started operations on his present property, located in Wayne township, where he has 116 acres under a high state of cultivation. He has made good improvements, and the farm presents attractiveness and an air of prosperity which speak well for the good management of the owner. Mr. McMechan is engaged in general farming, and to some extent in the raising of a good grade of live stock. He is capable and efficient in his work, having a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of his business, and his industry has resulted in the development of a property which brings him a satisfying revenue. In addition to his farming operations, he operates as a dealer in real estate, and in this connection has shown himself conversant with land values in this locality. His reputation as a business man of integrity equals that of his skill as an agriculturist. In his political adherence he casts his vote with the Republican party. Mr. McMechan is a member of the Presbyterian church, while Mrs. McMechan adheres to the Christian faith. Both are widely known in their community and have numerous friends.

Rev. William J. McSurely was born in Adams county, Ohio, September 1, 1834, a son of Hugh and Mary (Clark) McSurely. His father, a native of Lexington, Ky., went in young manhood to Adams county, Ohio, where he met and married Miss Clark, a native of Virginia, they then settling at Rockville, Ohio, where Mr. McSurely followed tanning and farming. He was possessed of only a public school education, but was a man of intelligence and broad information, and was a public-spirited and loyal citizen and a soldier of the Union during the Civil war. He and his wife, both of whom died in Adams county, Ohio, were the parents of three sons: William J., of this notice; Samuel M., who passed his life as a farmer and was a soldier during the War between the States; and George A. George A. McSurely attended Miami university during 1859 and 1860, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in Company E, 70th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he took part in various engagements, including those of the Atlanta campaign, and received his honorable discharge July 28, 1865, after taking part in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. In 1900 he was elected

treasurer of Miami university, a position which he held for ten years. For about eight years he was engaged in farming in Adams county, but in 1888 located at Oxford, Ohio, where he was proprietor of a grocery, and for nine years was elder in the United Presbyterian church and clerk of sessions. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. McSurely married Martha Clark, and they had two children: Laura, deceased; and Mary, who took a course in Miami university from which she was graduated in 1899, was later a teacher in the Oxford schools until 1906, and is now a teacher in the Hughes High school at Cincinnati. William J. McSurely attended the local schools and remained at his home with his parents until 1850, in which year he was sent to North Liberty academy, where he studied for two years. In 1853 he entered Miami university, from which institution he was graduated in 1856, at which time he took up the study of theology in the United Presbyterian seminary at Oxford. Licensed to preach April 14, 1858, he was ordained and installed pastor of the United Presbyterian church in Oxford in 1859, and November 12, 1860, married Hulda Taylor, of Sparta, Ill., who died in May, 1918, at the age of fifty-seven years. She was a daughter of John K. and Sarah (Wylie) Taylor, of South Carolina. Reverend McSurely left Oxford in 1866 and went to Kirkwood, Ill., remaining there until 1868, when he was given a charge at Loveland, Ohio, for one year. For the next thirty years he was pastor of the Hillsboro First Presbyterian church, was president of the Hillsboro library for twenty years, and from 1887 to 1900 was a trustee of Miami university. In 1899 he retired from active pursuits and removed to his present home at Oxford, where he is surrounded by numerous devoted friends. During the long period that he labored in his Master's service he had the love and veneration of his people, and his influence was most marked in bringing unbelievers to see the light and in assisting others to the attainment of contentment and happiness. He and his wife were the parents of three children: William H., the eldest, was born at Oxford, Ohio, in 1865, and after graduation from Wooster college in 1886, read law under Hon. Frank Steele. In 1887 he went to Chicago, Ill., where he entered the law office of Morton, Burly & Howell, and was admitted to the bar in 1888 and subsequently to a partnership in the firm of Morton & Burly. He was married October 18, 1892, to Marry E., daughter of Joseph S. Cadman, a Chicago attorney. He was elected judge of the supreme court at Chicago, in April, 1907, and for the past four years has been on the Appellate bench. He is a Republican in politics. Judge McSurely and his wife have two children, Marion and William C., who reside with their parents. The second child of Reverend McSurely is Ella G., educated at Hillsboro and Oxford college, and a graduate of Miami university, class of 1901, was subsequently a teacher at Hillsboro and assistant librarian. She attended a library school at Brooklyn, N. Y., from which she was duly graduated, and has been assistant librarian at Miami university, and makes her home at Oxford with her aged father. James E. McSurely, the third child of Reverend McSurely, was born at Hillsboro, and after his leaving Miami university in 1890 was in the National

Bank of Hillsboro for three and one-half years and then was graduated from the Cincinnati Law school, and subsequently established himself in the grocery business at Oxford but eventually disposed of his interests and for the past several years has been a traveling representative on the road for the Lexington Roller mills, of Lexington, Ky. He was married in 1902 to a Miss Walker, who died in 1911, leaving two children: James E., jr., and Alexander W., both of whom make their home at Oxford with their grandfather.

Jacob Naegelen, who has been identified with the American Rolling mill at Middletown since the opening of that plant in 1900 as a machinist, was born July 15, 1862, at Cincinnati, Ohio, a son of Charles and Theresa (Grever) Naegelen, natives of France who came to the United States as a young married couple. The mother passed away in 1903, but the father still lives, being now eighty-two years old. There were three children in the family: Jacob, Julius and Charles, and Jacob is the only survivor. Charles Naegelen lost a son who met a hero's death on a battlefield in France, and his loss so affected his father that he soon succumbed to grief and followed him to the grave. Jacob Naegelen received only a public school education and as a youth applied himself to learning the trade of machinist. This vocation he followed for many years in different localities, but since the opening of the American Rolling mill at Middletown, in 1900, he has been identified with this great plant. In politics he takes a non-partisan stand. Mr. and Mrs. Naegelen are consistent members of the Lutheran church, and as thrifty people have put away a comfortable competence for their evening of life, in addition to which they own a pleasant, modern home on Young street. Mr. Naegelen was married at Cincinnati, February 27, 1884, to Frances, who was born at Cincinnati, February 26, 1863, a daughter of Philip and Sophia (Winkleman) Huffert. Mr. Huffert died in 1907, while his widow still survives as a resident of Middletown. There were five daughters in the Huffert family: Eva, the wife of P. H. Morton, of Cincinnati; Flora, the wife of Walter Barrett, of that city; Rose, the wife of William Janson, of that city; Lillie, the wife of Frank Rheimegar, also of Cincinnati; and Mrs. Naegelen, of Middletown. To Mr. and Mrs. Naegelen there have been born five children: Jacob, formerly of Cincinnati, but now in the United States Navy, stationed at Norfolk, Va.; Lawrence, of Cincinnati; Charles, of Middletown, was with the Nineteenth Engineering Corps, in France; Julius, of Middletown; and Theresa, the wife of Guy Hatton, who holds a responsible position with the Big Four railroad at Middletown.

Fred W. Nagel. Both in private life and public affairs, Fred W. Nagel has proved himself eminently capable, energetic and trustworthy, and during the lifelong period of his association with Oxford, has won a permanent place as a practical and constructive promoter of the best business and civic interests of the community. Mr. Nagel, who has been in the business of funeral directing at Oxford since 1907 and has one of the leading establishments of the city, was born at Oxford, October 18, 1876, a son of Fred and Catherine Nagel. His parents, natives of Germany, emigrated to the United

States in 1851, locating for a time at Florence, Ky., and then coming to Oxford, where the father, a wagonmaker by trade, followed his vocation until the outbreak of the Civil war and then enlisted in the service of his country as a member of an Ohio volunteer infantry regiment. After his honorable discharge from military service, in which he had made a splendid record for brave and faithful performance of duty, he returned to the duties of civil life and for a number of years conducted a wagon-making establishment at Oxford, where his death occurred in 1877, Mrs. Nagel surviving him until 1919, when she passed away at the age of eighty-one years. They were faithful members of the Presbyterian church and the parents of ten children, of whom five are living: Henry, a resident of Oxford; Louise, the wife of Henry Ady, of Riverside, Cal.; Carl, the proprietor of a meat market at that place; Fred W.; and Kate, twins, the latter of whom is the wife of C. C. McKee, of Riverside. Fred W. Nagel received his education in the public schools of Oxford, and in 1900 embarked in business on his own account as the proprietor of a livery and transfer enterprise, of which he was the owner at Oxford until 1917. In the meantime, in 1916, he had enrolled as a student in the Cincinnati School of Embalming, and after completing the course, in 1917, engaged in the undertaking business, which he has since followed with success. He controls a business which has the confidence of the people of Oxford, and his personal tact has done much to make his services acceptable to families at the time of their greatest grief, while the complete equipment of his place of business and his facilities for the reverent handling of the dead have combined to give his establishment a recognized place among the specialized business houses of the city. In June, 1897, Mr. Nagel was united in marriage with Miss Nora Stanbery of Mount Carmel, Ind., and they have four children: Charles; Marjorie, a graduate of Oxford High school, who also attended the Western College for Women; Fred H. and William. The eldest son, Charles, was educated in the public schools of Oxford and the Miami summer school, and joined the Ohio National Guards, with which he served during the trouble on the Mexican border. When America entered the Great war, he was the youngest soldier to go from Oxford, being a member of Company E, 166th Infantry, of the famous Rainbow Division, and served for one hundred and forty-five straight days in the front line trenches in France. Wounded and gassed, he was confined to the general headquarters hospital for an extended period, and then received his honorable discharge and was sent home. Fred W. Nagel has been a prominent figure in Democratic politics, is a member of the Butler County Democratic Central committee and has served as a member of the Oxford City council. He has been an active supporter of good and beneficial movements, and his public record has been an excellent one. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church, and as a fraternalist holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias at Oxford, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Hamilton, in all of which he is very popular.

John F. Neilan. Prominent among the men who have made

creditable records in professional fields at Hamilton is found John F. Neilan. The votaries of the profession of law must, to be successful, be endowed with native talent, sterling rectitude of character and singleness of purpose, while equally important concomitants are close study, careful application and broad general knowledge in addition to that of a more purely technical order. Mr. Neilan fully meets all these requirements of his chosen calling, and thus has been able to advance himself to a position of prominence at the state bar. Mr. Neilan was born at Hamilton, Ohio, December 28, 1881, and comes honestly by his predilection for the profession which he now honors, being a son of John F. Neilan, the elder, who was for years a prominent attorney of Hamilton, until death cut short his career, October 8, 1907. He secured his preliminary education in the parochial school of St. Mary's church, following which he pursued a course at St. Xavier's college, Cincinnati, and then entered upon his professional studies at the Cincinnati Law school. Graduating with his degree in 1903, he was admitted to the bar the same year, and at once entered practice as his father's associate. Father and son combined to furnish a most successful legal partnership and this connection continued until the death of the elder man, since which time Mr. Neilan has practised alone, having a large and important clientage. His marked ability is recognized by the public and the profession, and is the outcome of close study, thorough preparation of his cases, keen analysis of the facts and a logical application of the law that bears upon them. In politics he is a Democrat, and for four years he served as city solicitor of Hamilton. His religious connection is with St. Mary's Catholic church. He belongs also to the Hamilton and Butler County County clubs, and to the Hamilton, Butler County and Ohio State Bar associations. February 22, 1906, Mr. Neilan was united in marriage with Marie W., daughter of John R. Woods, of Hamilton, and they are the parents of one child: Kathleen, eleven years of age.

Edward H. Nein. All lines of business industry at Middletown, Ohio, have grown and increased in extent, scope and value during recent years, and the credit for this desirable state of affairs must be largely given to the enterprising realty dealers, whose energy and modern methods have assisted in putting the city on a sound financial basis through encouraging new settlement and attracting business houses to this point. Of the firms who have been prominent in developing new sections of the city, none is better known than that of Nein Brothers Realty company, which, within less than a decade, has come rapidly to the forefront among the leading operators of the municipality. Edward H. Nein, the senior member of this firm, and a man widely known and highly esteemed in business circles, was born near Cambridge City, Wayne county, Ind., February 6, 1878, a son of Henry and Margaret (Grau) Nein. His father, born in Germany in 1839, was sixteen years of age when he came to the United States and during the rest of his life was engaged in agricultural pursuits, his death occurring in Butler county, Ohio, in 1901. Mrs. Nein, who was born in Butler county, Ohio, February 14, 1848, survives her husband and lives at Hamilton, this state. Edward H.

Jno. N. Neil

John F. Nein

Nein attended the common schools until he was fifteen years of age, and then spent two years at the Shandon (Butler county) High school. This was followed by two years of study at the National university, Lebanon, Ohio, and when he left that institution, at the age of nineteen years, he began teaching in the district schools, a vocation which he followed for four years. When he was twenty-three years old he entered the normal school at Valparaiso, Ind., but left after one year and began bookkeeping, which he followed several years. Advanced to the position of traveling salesman, he followed that occupation for four years, and in 1908, embarked in the real estate business at Hamilton, Ohio. In 1910, he removed to Middletown, where he formed a partnership with his brother, John F. Nein, and this has existed ever since, being known as the Nein Brothers Realty company. The company is engaged chiefly in the sub-dividing of property into city lots and the building of homes, and in ten years of business the firm has developed six residence sections of Middletown. The brothers have devoted a good deal of time to the selling of homes on the easy payment plan to workmen. Edward H. Nein is one of the energetic, progressive and thoroughly informed men of Middletown, where his standing among business men is of the best and his friendships numerous. His knowledge of realty values is extensive, and the straightforward methods by which he does business have gained him the complete confidence of his extensive clientage. He was married November 6, 1902, to Elizabeth M. McCoy, who was educated in the graded schools of Butler county, a daughter Mr. and Mrs. William McCoy, the former a resident of near Oxford, and the latter deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Nein have two sons: Lyman Randolph, born in 1903; and Gordon Russel, born in 1905. Mr. Nein has always taken an active part in the municipal affairs of his home city. Fraternally he is affiliated with the United Commercial Travelers, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the Scottish Rite degree of Masonry, and is a Shriner. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church.

John F. Nein. As Middletown has become, year by year, a more and more important commercial and industrial center, its business has naturally increased, and its population has reached a magnitude which has been a constantly growing tax upon the capacity of its residence districts. This state of affairs is being met by the capable realty operators, who have solved the question involved by the development of new sections of the city, in which they have furnished homes, largely for the working classes, and in this field no concern has accomplished greater or more successful results than that of Nein Brothers Realty company. John F. Nein, the junior member of this firm, a man widely versed in realty values and a skilled and thoroughly reliable business man, was born near Cambridge City, Wayne county, Ind., August 15, 1880. His father was Henry Nein, who was born in Germany in 1839 and came to the United States in 1855, the rest of his life being passed in farming in Indiana and Ohio, and his death occurring in Butler county of the latter state. Henry Nein married Margaret Grau, who was born in Butler county, and who survives him and makes her home at Hamilton. John F. Nein

was educated in the country schools of Butler county, Ohio, and the high school at Shandon, and was reared as a farmer's son. His career up to 1907 was passed on the home place in Butler county, where he was associated with his father in agricultural operations, but in that year he turned his attention to real estate as a vocation, and established himself in business at Middletown. For three years he continued to operate alone with growing success, and in 1910 was joined by his brother, Edward H. Nein, the firm of Nein Brothers Realty company being founded at that time. This has grown to be one of the important business houses of Middletown, and is at present largely engaged in the subdividing of property into city lots and the building of homes. In the ten years that the company has been in existence, it has developed six residence sections of Middletown, and the selling of the greater number of these homes has been on the easy payment plan to workingmen and their families. In this way, many who would otherwise be unable to secure property of their own, have become home-owners, and if there were no other reason the firm should for this fact be considered one of the constructive development factors of the city. In business circles of Middletown, John F. Nein is known as an alert, astute and energetic operator, and one who has won and held the complete confidence of those with whom he has come into association and contact. While not a politician in the accepted sense of the term, he has taken an intelligent and active interest in the municipal affairs of his home city and in matters of state and national importance. His fraternal affiliations are with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Lafayette Lodge, No. 37, Knights of Pythias. As a churchman, he belongs to the Presbyterian faith, as do also the members of his family. August 5, 1903, Mr. Nein was united in marriage with Flora L., who died July 31, 1918. She was the daughter of Halsey and Elizabeth Henry, and was educated in the schools of Butler county and graduated at the high school in Hamilton. She was the mother of one daughter and two sons: Velma, born in 1904; Floyd, born in 1906; and Russel, born in 1910. On January 7, 1920, Mr. Nein was married to Florence Carolyn Abbott of Hamilton, Ohio.

Louis T. Nein, who has risen from the schoolroom to public honors and success, and who now occupies the position of treasurer of Butler county, was born at Milton, Ind., and was a child when brought by his parents to Morgan township, Butler county, Ohio, where he grew up on a farm and received his early education in the district schools. After his graduation from the New London High school, in 1901, he taught a rural school for one year in Milford township, and was then made principal of the Millville school, a position which he retained two years. Going then to Indianapolis, Mr. Nein became identified with the Pennsylvania Railway company, and with that line rose to the office of chief clerk of the accounting department of the Indianapolis office. In 1912 he resigned and went to Middletown, Ohio, where he established himself in business as the proprietor of a general merchandise store. In 1914, he was appointed city auditor of Middletown, and served in that office until August 3, 1919, when he resigned to take the posi-

tion of treasurer of Butler county, to which he had been elected in November, 1918. Mr. Nein is a Blue Lodge Mason, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, a Pythian and a member of the Y. M. C. A. He is a Democrat in his political tendencies and is accounted one of the strong men of his party in Butler county. With his family he belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Nein married in 1907, Ethel, daughter of George Hawk, and they are the parents of two children: Earl Louis and Helen Elizabeth.

Clarence Newcomb, who belongs to one of the old and honored families of the Miami valley, and who is now chief electrician at Sorg's mills, at Middletown, was born at Franklin, Warren county, Ohio, in 1879. He is a grandson of John Newcomb, who fought with an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil war, and who still survives as a resident of Indiana. Clarence Newcomb received his education in the public schools of Franklin, and as a youth began to learn the trade of electrician, after mastering which he was variously employed until entering Sorg's mills. There he won consecutive promotion until he was placed in his present position, one in which he has numerous responsibilities, in the faithful and efficient discharge of which he has gained the full confidence of his employers and the respect and esteem of those over whom he has charge. Mr. Newcomb was married July 12, 1894, to Miss Mary E. Murphy, who was born in 1881 in the home of Mrs. Anna O'Flynn, the oldest woman of Irish parentage at Franklin, who still resides in the same home. To this union there were born three sons: Fred, Howard and Isaac. The Newcomb home was saddened February 11, 1919, by the death of Mrs. Newcomb, following an operation which was held in the hope of curing her of a trouble that had made her ill for a number of years. She was a beautiful character, an exceedingly devout woman, and a faithful member of the Catholic church. She was an excellent housewife and a loving and tender mother and wife, and the beauty, sincerity and maternal affection which were hers are revealed in her farewell letter to her husband. Following her suggestions therein, Mr. Newcomb has, since her death, become a devout Catholic, and is also carrying out his wife's request by sending their little son, Isaac, to a Catholic boarding school. Fred Newcomb, the eldest of the sons, completed his education in the Franklin High school in 1914, and at that time went to Cleveland, where he secured employment at the Riverside furnace, as crane man. He continued in this firm's employ until September 9, 1918, when he enlisted in the United States Navy, at Cleveland, and when the Minnesota forest fires broke out went with his company up the Great Lakes to assist in stamping out these conflagrations. Returning from that service, he received his honorable discharge and was mustered out of the service December 22, 1918, at which time he returned to his former position, which he still occupies.

John C. Newlin, who is associated with his son, Le Roy Newlin, in the painting and decorating business at Middletown, is a representative citizen and reliable business man of this city. He is a

native of Indiana, son of James Crozier and Charlotte (Johnson) Newlin, the latter of whom died when he was one year old. He was reared by Norman McMackin, an uncle, of Sharon, Ohio, with whom he remained until eighteen years of age. He was educated at Sharon and there learned his trade, following the same ever since and for a number of years has been a resident of Middletown. February 19, 1885, he married Laura Belle, daughter of Otis and Cynthia (Davidson) Preble, then of Batavia, Ohio, of New England ancestry. Mrs. Newlin has two sisters: Catherine, Mrs. George Long, of Middletown; and Ida, Mrs. J. B. Drake, of Bethany. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Newlin: Le Roy, Harry Edward and Carrie. Both Harry E. and Carrie are graduates of the Middletown High school and both are employed in a clerical capacity by the American Rolling Mill company. Le Roy, who is his father's partner in business, is an overseas soldier with the following honorable record: He entered military service April 26, 1918, in Company 5, 331st Infantry; was sent first to Camp Sherman; then to Camp Merritt; sailed in June and reached England June 16; Havre, France, June 19; sent to Montigny on the Marne; August 1, was transferred to company L; and was sent to an army training school for two months. October 1 moved with his unit to Malicorne; December 16 to La Suze; left for Brest December 30; sailed for the United States January 17, and reached home in April, 1919. The returned soldier immediately resumed work with his father and has proved just as faithful and efficient in civil life as in military. This firm has done the greater part of the fine decorating in new buildings erected here and their work is considered above criticism and their business methods honest in every particular. In 1915 Mr. Newlin erected his handsome residence on Garfield avenue. He is liberal in his political views as to outside affairs, but locally is deeply concerned in all that affects the welfare of Middletown. He is a member of the Oakland Presbyterian church.

James C. Niblock, son of John and Catherine (Donahue) Niblock, was born March 14, 1870, at Struthers, Ohio. The parents came from Belfast, Ireland, to establish their home in the "land of the free," and proved worthy citizens of their adopted country. Mrs. Niblock died in Huntington, Ind., in January, 1888, and the death of Mr. Niblock occurred at Fort Wayne, Ind., in October, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Niblock were the parents of nine children: Maggie, Mrs. Thos. Mylott, of Decatur, Ind.; David, now in Anderson, Ind.; Catherine, Mrs. J. W. Place; Andrew, in Warren, Ohio; Henry, in Chicago; Lizzie, Mrs. Charles Hammond, in Huntington, Ind.; John, in the west; Will, in Muncie, Ind., and James C., our subject, who married Emma C. Love, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Melmer) Love, at Muncie, Ind., February 10, 1891. She was born in Glasgow, Scotland, January 16, 1870, and came with her parents to Montreal, Canada, when quite a young girl, where her father engaged in the railroad business. Her mother died September 10, 1902; her father, July 31, 1911. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Niblock: Catherine, Mrs. Charles Bolton; Harry, married Maud Mulligan; Margaret, William and Alice. William

served in the World war with the 2d Division, U. S. Marines. Mr. Niblock is a heater and has been employed by the American Rolling Mill company since the plant was located in Middletown, nineteen years ago. He is a good citizen and neighbor and has many friends. He owns a fine home on Grand avenue, is a member of St. John's Catholic church and liberal in politics.

George H. Nichol. For one of its oldest families and most interesting agricultural landmarks, Hanover township, Butler county, is indebted to the courage and farsightedness of the progenitor of the Nichol family in this region, who took up his residence here during the presidency of James Monroe. John W. Nichol was of Scotch-Irish extraction and came from Pennsylvania. Entering a goodly portion of land he erected a dwelling of rough logs, and a stout heart and eager determination transformed hardships into shining stepping-stones to better things, so that he realized many of his worthy ambitions and became a prominent and well-to-do man of his locality. On this farm was born his son, Joseph W. Nichol, who married Henrietta Kyger, who belonged to an old family of Pennsylvania. She was born on the old Kyger homestead in Milford township that is now owned by her son, John W. Nichol, one of the enterprising, progressive and successful agriculturists of Butler county. Following their marriage, Joseph W. and Henrietta Nichol took up their residence on the Nichol place, and there followed farming successfully until Mr. Nichol's death, after which his widow moved to Hamilton, where she passed away. They were laid to rest side by side in the cemetery at Darrtown. Their children were: John W., of Darrtown; Mrs. Nellie Hansel, of that place; Mrs. Sallie Herron; Mrs. Louise Coulter; Elizabeth, who is deceased; and George H. George H. Nichol was born on the old Nichol homestead in Hanover township, June 25, 1867, and received good educational advantages, attending the schools of Hanover township and Oxford, and also spending one year at Lebanon university. After leaving school he began to assist his father at home, and February 19, 1897, was married in Milford township to Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Margaret Snyder, former residents of this township who are now deceased. The Snyder children were: Mrs. Ida Trump; Samuel; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Nichol; Mrs. Barbara and Mrs. Maggie Harris; Harris; William; and Charles, who is deceased. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Nichol settled on their present property, which consists of 200 acres, and which is highly improved and in an excellent state of cultivation. In addition to this property, Mr. Nichol owns another tract of 159 acres in Milford township, and a one-half interest in a third property, of 218 acres, likewise in Milford township. While general farming has been his regular business and one in which he has gained a full share of prosperity, he has also met with much success in raising Shorthorn cattle and is considered an authority upon live stock. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Darrtown and of the Lutheran church, and takes a wholesome interest in charitable institutions, being one of the most generous men when called upon to forward and assist any worthy cause, as exemplified in his large contributions to the

various war drives. His clean and upright life commands respect and good will, and, as the legitimate owner and custodian of a large estate, he inspires admiration for his sagacious and thrifty management and control. To Mr. and Mrs. Nichol there have been born four children: Helen, Joseph M., Dorothy and Elizabeth Louise, of whom Dorothy is deceased.

John A. Nicol, who is a substantial retired resident of Middletown, bears a name that has been held in much esteem in Butler county for many years. He was born near this city, a son of John G. and Kunngunde (Eighler) Nicol. John G. Nicol was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came from his native land to the United States in company with his father, the mother having died in Bavaria. October 28, 1856, he married Kunngunde Eighler, who died while their three children were very young. Of these, two are living, John A. and Anna Barbara; the second born, Kate Marguerite, being deceased. Bavaria has always been one of the rich provinces of Germany, but there were many poor but honest people there also, and to this latter class the Nicols belonged. In 1863 John G. Nicol crossed the Atlantic to the United States and when he reached Middletown, Ohio, he had but nineteen cents left. He immediately sought work and at first made a living for himself and family by sawing wood, his industry being the recommendation that secured him the position of hauling logs for the Wardlow Thomas Paper company. He afterward engaged in farming, living on the William Walter farm near Middletown, which was a fine property and which he later purchased. For many years he continued to work his land and brought it to a high state of production, and continued to reside on the farm until 1911, when he sold it to Albert Miller, removing then with his son and daughter to Lakeside where three fine residence properties were bought. Although Mr. Nicol has reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years, the passage of time has touched him lightly, and he is passing the evening of life tenderly cared for by his two devoted children. The family belongs to Bethlehem Lutheran church.

C. B. Niederlander. The captains of industry who are directing the financial activities of various sections in maintaining the nation's monetary prestige, and combating the influence of the foes to established currency and methods of transacting business, are the men who shoulder the responsibility for prosperity and advancement along every line of commercial and industrial activity. Without them and their sound, conservative policies, the country would be at the mercy of every irresponsible speculator or visionary idealist. These men of affairs keep their finger on the pulse of progress and are able to prevent undue stimulation or dangerous reflex action. One of the men who established a name and reputation in banking circles of the Miami valley is C. B. Niederlander, president of The American Trust & Savings bank of Middletown. Mr. Niederlander was born at Middletown, Ohio, April 6, 1864, a son of Joseph W. and Maria (Cunningham) Niederlander, the former a native of Alsace and the latter of Utica, N. Y. They were both young when they came to Middletown, where they were married, and where the

father followed the tinsmith business throughout his life, being a man universally esteemed and respected. His widow, at the age of eighty-one years, still survives, as do their eight children: Benjamin B., Mary, C. B., W. J., Irene, Elizabeth, Amelia, and Laura. After attending the public schools of Middletown, C. B. Niederlander secured employment in a tobacco factory, but gave up this occupation to take up office work. His first connection with banking affairs was with the Merchants National bank of Middletown, where he rose to the post of cashier, continuing with that institution until November 30, 1910, when he became one of the organizers of the American Trust & Savings bank, his associates in that enterprise being P. A. Sorg, president; and J. W. Boyd, vice-president. The new institution opened its doors for business January 21, 1911, with a capital of $50,000, and in May, 1916, this was increased to $100,000, the surplus at this time being $50,000. The present officers of this, one of the most prominent, substantial and conservative banks of the county, are: C. B. Niederlander, president; A. H. Walburg, vice-president; Carleton Eldridge, cashier; and James F. Mulligan, assistant cashier. A man of unusual public spirit, interested in local affairs and proud of the city in which his career has been passed, Mr. Niederlander is a powerful factor in the furtherance of any measure which has for its aim the advancement of the people or the betterment of existing conditions. Although his interests are widespread, and the demands upon his time and sympathies countless, he is uniformly courteous, listening patiently and acting wisely according to the ripe judgment his experience has given him. He is fond of the companionship of his fellows, and is a charter member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in addition to belonging to the Knights of Columbus and Division No. 2, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and he is a member of Holy Trinity Catholic church, Middletown, Ohio.

Joseph Niemeyer. Various farms in Butler county have been improved by the occupancy of Joseph Niemeyer, at present retired, although still the owner of a ninety-five acre tract in section 36, Lemon township. From the years 1903 to 1917 he increased the value of this fine property, was extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising, and established a standard of agricultural procedure creditable to any community. Mr. Niemeyer was born December 15, 1842, in Westphalia, Germany, and attended the schools of his native land, where he lived until he was twenty-four years of age. He arrived in the United States in 1866, with no knowledge of the English language, and with but a limited capital. Both of these discrepancies were attended to, however, for he quickly learned the language of his adopted country, and gave himself a good practical education therein, while, being a willing and capable workman, he soon found employment, and during the two years that he remained in Cincinnati earned good wages in a foundry. In 1868 he came to Hamilton, O., where for six months he worked for the firm of Owen, Lane & Deyer, and then established himself in business on his own account as the proprietor of a dray line. He was married February

6, 1878, to Miss Anna Maria Boehm, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and came alone to the United States in 1872, locating at Hamilton, where she met and married Mr. Niemeyer. She died in the faith of the Evangelical church, May 20, 1917, at the age of sixty-four years. Following his marriage, Mr. Niemeyer located in Warren county, where he began his agricultural operations, but after four years returned to Butler county and located on a farm in Lemon township. From that time forward he lived on various farms, in the same township, until 1903, when he bought his present property, a tract of ninety-five acres in section 36. As a scientific farmer and excellent business man, he made a success of his operations, and during the time that he was actively engaged in operations, remodeled the buildings and made many valuable improvements, so that he now has one of the fine country homes of Butler county. In 1917 he retired from active life, although he still owns his farm. Among his neighbors, and throughout the township, Mr. Niemeyer is much esteemed and bears the reputation of being a man of superior information, sound judgment, strict integrity and commendable public spirit. He is adaptable and obliging and has the faculty of getting along with all with whom he is associated. Mr. Niemeyer and his wife had one daughter: Ida Marie, who was born February 19, 1880, in Warren county, O. She was married March 14, 1899, to George H. Matson, who was born on the old Matson place in Lemon township, Butler county, a son of Joseph Matson, deceased, who was for many years an agriculturist of that township. George H. Matson has always been a farmer and is now operating the property of his father-in-law, being accounted one of the skilled and capable representatives of the farming industry in Lemon township. He and Mrs. Matson are general favorites in their community, where they have many warm friends. They are the parents of two children: Ralph Joseph, born June 24, 1900, and who is now a student in the agricultural department of the State university, at Columbus; and Helen Marie, born November 19, 1912.

Charles J. Nilles has demonstrated the possibilities for achieving definite success in light farming and market gardening in Butler county, where he is the owner of a fine little place of nineteen acres, at Symmes Corner, Fairfield township. In connection with his vegetable gardens, Mr. Nilles has installed an effective overhead sprinkling system, which insures the best of products, regardless of rainfall. Mr. Nilles was born and reared in Butler county, where he attended the public schools, besides which he was afforded the advantages of Catholic parochial schools in the city of Cincinnati. He was born in Fairfield township, April 18, 1871, and is a son of John and Catherine (Van Stein) Nilles, who were born in Germany, and came to the United States and were married in Butler county, Ohio. In this county John Nilles achieved not a little success as a representative of farm enterprise, in which connection his operations were carried on in turn in Fairfield, Union and Hanover townships. Of his children the eldest is John; Mary is the wife of Andrew Kammerer; Maggie is the wife of Henry Gephart; Katie is the wife of John Vizedom; Emma is the wife of George Ittel; Elizabeth

is the wife of Henry Klick; and Charles J. is the immediate subject of this sketch. After leaving school Charles J. Nilles continued to be associated with his father in farm operations in Butler county, but within a short time after his marriage, which occurred in 1906, he purchased and established his residence on his present attractive little farm, upon which he has made many improvements that have conserved his success as a market gardener, his high-grade products finding a ready demand. He is loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities, is a Democrat in politics, and during the nation's participation in the World war he gave with consistent liberality to the support of the government war activities. He and his wife are communicants of St. Ann Catholic church at Hamilton. The year 1906 bore record of the marriage of Mr. Nilles to Rosa Weiler, who likewise was born and reared in Butler county and who is a daughter of John Weiler, the names of whose other children are: John, jr., George, Laura, Elizabeth, Helen, Anna and Virginia. The attractive home circle of Mr. and Mrs. Nilles includes their three children, Carl, Paul and Robert.

John Nixon, one of the old and highly respected members of the retired colony at Hamilton, was for a long period of years extensively engaged in agricultural operations in Hanover township, where his industry, good management and well-chosen methods of procedure combined to elevate him to a position among the substantial men of his locality. Mr. Nixon was born on the old Nixon homestead in Hanover township, May 9, 1837, a son of William and Margaret (Dodds) Nixon, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Pennsylvania. William Nixon was two years of age when he was brought by his parents to the United States, his father, also named William Nixon, settling first at Cincinnati and in 1808 removing to Butler county. Here he secured wild land on section 4, Hanover township, where he cleared a small tract, erected a log cabin home, and settled down to the pursuits of farming, in which he and his wife continued to be engaged during the remainder of their lives. They were well known and highly respected people of their time and locality, and the parents of five children: Robert, Andrew, James, William and a daughter. William Nixon the younger was educated in the common schools, and was reared much the same as other pioneer boys, being carefully trained in the arts of agriculture, to which he applied himself throughout his life. He always maintained the family reputation for integrity and honorable dealing, and was an influential Democrat of his community, although not an office seeker, and he and Mrs. Nixon were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, in the faith of which he died in 1861 and his widow in 1880. Their children were: Jane, deceased, who died as the widow of the late Thomas Huston; Margaret, deceased, who was the wife of the late Samuel Taylor; Annie, who died single; Elizabeth, deceased, who married the late John Pocock; Martha Louise, of Hanover township, who is the widow of William Weaver; James, who never married but passed his life on the old homestead; and John, of this notice. John Nixon attended the public schools of his native locality as a youth and was reared on

the home place, where he assisted his father until he reached the age of twenty-five years. He was married in 1861 to Margaret A Doner, of Hanover township, a daughter of David and Jane (Alexander) Doner, early settlers of that township, where David Doner was a well known farmer with a property near McGonigle. Following his marriage, Mr. Nixon built the house in which he now lives and in which he has always made his home, and settled down to the pursuits of farming, in which he has found contentment and success. The result of his industry and good management is apparent in the ownership of two fine farms, one of 158 acres and the other of 156 acres, and in addition to farming was for a time engaged as a stock dealer, but for several years has lived in retirement, having passed over active labor to younger hands when he had accumulated a satisfying competency. His career has been one in which he has established and maintained an excellent reputation for business integrity, personal probity and ideals of the highest order as to citizenship, and his friends and those who highly respect and esteem him are numerous in his community. He has not been active in public affairs as a seeker for office, but has staunchly supported all good movements. Mrs. Nixon died in January, 1910, one of the highly honored ladies of her locality, where she had numerous acquaintances and friends. There were two children in the family: Charles D. and Jennie. Charles D., born October 29, 1867, is one of the progressive and energetic farmers of Hanover township, where he operates his father's property. He married Esther Muller of Middletown, Ohio, a daughter of Peter and Mary Muller, the former a native of France and the latter of Germany. They have one child, Grace Nixon. Peter Muller, who was the owner of a farm in Milford township, Butler county, died in 1918. Jennie Nixon, the daughter of John Nixon, married John Blout, of Hanover township, and at the time of her death in 1918, at the age of forty-nine years, left two children, Nellie and Maynard.

George Albert Offenhauer. Sixteen years of steady, competent and faithful service have given George Albert Offenhauer the right to be a trusted and valued employe of the Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill company. In this length of time, he has passed through a number of positions, each an advancement over the other, and is today known as one of the best rollers in the plant. He is a native of Mercer county, Ohio, and a son of Albert and Catherine (Schmidt) Offenhauer, both of whom are deceased. There were five other sons in the family: Charles, Robert, Roy, Maurice and Benjamin. The Offenhauer family can trace its ancestry back to the sixteenth century, and many members have been prominent in civil and military life, the most recent in the latter connection being Mr. Offenhauer's brother, Robert, who rose to the rank of major in the United States Army during the great World war. After attending the public schools of his native county, George Albert Offenhauer was variously employed until he became identified with the rolling mill industry, and about sixteen years ago he came to Middletown, to accept a position with the American Rolling Mill company, and from time to time has received promo-

tions until he now occupies the post of roller. A thoroughly experienced man, and a rapid and tireless worker, he is one of the men privileged to wear the pin emblematic of fifteen years or more of faithful service to the company, which decoration is known as the "fifteen-year pin." As a voter he maintains an independent stand, refusing to be bound by party lines, but his citizenship is of a constructive character. Mr. Offenhauer, with faith in the future of Middletown, has invested a part of his earnings in real estate here, and at present is the owner of several valuable residences. Recently he has moved with his family from the former home on Yankee Road, to the more comfortable and commodious house at the corner of Sutphin and George streets. April 6, 1902, at Muncie, Ind., Mr. Offenhauer was united in marriage with Grace L., daughter of Martin and LaVerne (Steed) Williams, who are still residents of Muncie. There are five children in the Williams family: Bertha, the wife of William Williams, of St. Louis, Mo.; Grace Lee, the wife of George A. Offenhauer, of Middletown; Ethel, of Covington, Ky.; Clayton, of Muncie, Ind.; and Cleo, the wife of Benjamin Offenhauer, of Middletown. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Offenhauer: Veda Eloise, born March 5, 1903; Earl Vaughn, who died December 29, 1905; William, who died November 2, 1910; Glenn Albert, born May 23, 1912; and Donald, who died December 27, 1915. Mrs. Offenhauer is a woman of superior attainments and graces. The daughter, Veda Eloise, is a student at the Middletown High school, and is developing marked musical talent as a pianist under the instruction of a Cincinnati professor.

Oglesby & Barnitz Company, Bankers. At an early day in the business history of Middletown, there was founded a modest general store by two young and energetic aspirants for business success, William B. Oglesby and George C. Barnitz. The chief capital of these young men consisted of their faith in their own ability, their confidence in the coming growth and development of their city, and their inherent business ability, which was backed by determination and practical policies. At the outset, their chief ambition was to build up a prosperous general merchandise business, and doubtless they would have succeeded in this aim had their energies not been diverted into other channels. As merchants they gradually insinuated themselves into the confidence of their customers, who came to rely upon them without question in regard to monetary affairs, and gradually they became the repository of the small savings of a number of those who patronized them. This side line soon grew and developed to such proportions that as a matter of protection to themselves as much as a convenience to the people of the community, they decided to enter banking, and in 1847 the partners opened the first bank of deposit and exchange in that vicinity. Under the guidance and direction of these two honorable, astute and practical business men the affairs of the institution flourished and prospered, and in the summer of 1889 it was reorganized under the corporate name of The Oglesby & Barnitz Company, Bankers. At that time there was erected on the old

site the building in which the bank is housed today. William B. Oglesby continued to be president of the bank until his death, in 1885, and George C. Barnitz retained his connection with the institution until his death in 1895. After the death of W. B. Oglesby and G. C. Barnitz, C. B. Oglesby and William O. Barnitz, sons of these men, assumed the interest of their respective fathers, Mr. Oglesby being president and Mr. Barnitz vice-president of the bank. J. W. Shafor, a valued associate, has been cashier for the past twenty years, and Ed Sebold is assistant cashier. In March, 1918, Chas. B. Oglesby died and W. O. Barnitz was made president and William D. Oglesby, son of Chas B., was made vice president. This old and honored institution has passed through a number of crises and financial panics, and has never suspended payment of currency even for a single day. The founders were men of substantial worth during their day and their careers were indissolubly connected with the financial history of their time. Their standards were extremely high, and their sons endeavored to live up to them in the conduct of the institution. To them integrity and uprightness were more than material prosperity, and their sons proved that the one is not incompatible with the other.

Theodore Oliger, proprietor of a lucrative plumbing business at Hamilton, was born at Hamilton, October 22, 1876, a son of John and Fannie Oliger, of Greensburg, Ind., where the father was the proprietor of a cooperage business. He died when Theodore was but two years of age, but the mother still survives as a resident of Hamilton. They had two children: Charles, who is working at the plumbing trade for his brother; and Theodore. Theodore Oliger attended the public schools of Hamilton, following which he was sent by his mother to the Nichols Business college. Upon the completion of his course he worked as a machinist for one year, but this did not appeal to him and he subsequently turned his attention to the plumbing business, which he mastered under the preceptorship of J. P. Henn, a well-known plumber of Hamilton. Mr. Oliger remained in the employ of Mr. Henn for thirteen years, following which he accepted a position as traveling representative of the Sanitary Manufacturing company, a position which he filled for five years. Returning to Hamilton, in October, 1908, he embarked in business on his own account as the proprietor of a plumbing establishment, and from that time to the present has been successful in building up and carefully handling a constantly increasing trade, and his reputation as a man of his word is an excellent one among his associates. In the big flood of 1913, Mr. Oliger's establishment was damaged to the extent of $800, but he immediately rebuilt. In 1915, he erected his present handsome residence at No. 604 S. Second street, and his business is now conducted in the rear of this number. Mr. Oliger was married June 22, 1905, to Miss Rose Hesselbrock, who was born at Cincinnati, but came to Hamilton with her parents in young girlhood. One child has been born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Oliger: Helen, who is at present attending Notre Dame academy and is also studying piano. Mr. Oliger is a popular member of the Elks and Eagles at Hamilton.

James O'Toole, superintendent of the Hamilton City Electric Department office, was born at Oxford, Ohio, a son of Frank and Anna O'Toole, natives of Ireland who upon emigrating to the United States came directly to Oxford, where for years the father was superintendent of the Oxford cemetery, a position which he filled with efficiency and faithfulness up to the time of his demise. After the death of this sterling and honored citizen, his widow came to Hamilton, where she now makes her home with her two daughters and son at No. 6 N. Tenth street. There were five children in the family: Patrick, who is now deceased; James, of this notice; William, who is single and engaged in agricultural pursuits in Butler county; and Mrs. Mary Pfeifer and Mrs. Wallace, widows, who live with their brother and mother at Hamilton. James O'Toole received his early education in the public schools of Oxford, and when still a youth, in 1888, went to Williamsport, Pa., where he attended lectures and secured special instruction at Cornell university. During the next sixteen years he was employed by the Lycoming Electric company of Williamsport, Pa., and through industry, fidelity and a display of marked ability rose in the confidence of his company, and in position until he obtained the post of superintendent at the power station. Returning to Hamilton, he was appointed superintendent of the city electrical department, in December, 1906, and has since been reappointed to this office each succeeding term to the present time, and his long service is the best kind of evidence that he stands high in the confidence of the people of Hamilton and the surrounding communities. He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus and Elks. He is unmarried and resides with his widowed mother and sisters at the pleasant home at No. 6, N. Tenth street.

Joshua B. Owsley, M. D. During a period of more than a half century the late Dr. Joshua B. Owsley was engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Butler county, and few men in this locality have impressed themselves more forcibly or favorably upon their fellow-citizens. Residing in the little village of Jacksonboro, he traveled to points all over the country-side in alleviating the ills of his fellow-men and his name came to be one synonymous with generosity, sympathy and true Christianity. As professional man, friend and citizen, he established a record in his locality that will be long remembered by those who were privileged to come in contact with him. Dr. Owsley was born in Clinton county, Ohio, September 18, 1833, a son of Samuel and Lucy (Betterson) Owsley. His parents, honorable and honored agricultural people, rounded out long and useful careers in the rural districts of Clinton county, where were born their eight children: Joshua B.; Harry, who is a farmer in Illinois; John, farming in Clinton county; George, a farmer of Elkton, Ohio; Charles, an attorney of Kansas City, Mo.; Amos, a locomotive engineer of Cincinnati, Ohio; Jane, deceased; and Mrs. Joseph Baker, of Eaton, Ohio. The boyhood of Dr. Joshua B. Owsley was passed on his father's farm in Clinton county, where he received his early education in the district schools. The life of a farmer did not appeal to him, and, having shown a preference for the

medical profession, he was allowed to study therefor, receiving his degree and diploma from the Cincinnati Medical college. After his graduation he took up the practice of his calling at Cincinnati, where he remained for seven years, and while residing in that city was married (first) to Miss Catherine Witherow, who was born at Seven Mile, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel P. Witherow. She died at Jacksonboro, leaving two sons: Samuel, who died at the age of eighteen years; and William, engaged in Government work at Dayton, who married Dr. Frances Young, a medical practitioner of Columbus, Ohio, and has five children, Frances, Dawson, Joshua, John and Frederick. In September, 1872, Doctor Owsley married (second) Mrs. Sarah (Long) Marts, widow of William Marts, who was a son of David and Mary (Snider) Marts. By her first marriage, Mrs. Owsley had one son: John David, born August 1, 1878, and educated at the home schools and the high school at Middletown. He married Nelda Happensberger, of Middletown, and is now engaged in operating his mother's farm in Madison township, Butler county. On leaving Cincinnati, Doctor Owsley settled at Jacksonboro, in the northeastern part of Butler county, where he became widely known, not only for his professional skill, which was exceptional, but for his broad sympathies and humanitarianism. A friend to all, he labored ceaselessly in his fellow-man's behalf, and no duty of his calling was too irksome, no weather was too inclement, for this old-time physician to sally forth on his errands of mercy. A well-read man, he was possessed of a wonderful memory. He was a leading Democrat and a delegate to a number of conventions, but did not seek public office, although he was alive to the current happenings of the day, and for over fifty years kept himself conversant with world events by his subscription to the Cincinnati Enquirer. At Cincinnati he joined the Masonic fraternity, and subsequently became a life member of the Knights Templar, while in a professional way he belonged to the Butler County Medical society, the Ohio State Medical society and the American Medical association. He was a consistent attendant of the Presbyterian church, in the faith of which he died April 30, 1912. He is survived by his widow, who lives on her valuable Madison township farm, a woman of many graces and estimable qualities who is widely known and highly esteemed among the people of Butler county.

The Pabst Family. Christian Pabst, for years one of the well-known business men of Hamilton, and long a public official, whose services in various civic positions reflected credit upon himself and his community, was born December 6, 1853, in Bavaria, Germany, and was twelve years of age when, in 1866, he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family settling at Hamilton. Here he completed his schooling, following which he began to learn the trade of printer, serving his apprenticeship with L. B. DelaCourt. For a time he was job compositor in the office of Jacob Long, of Hamilton, and eventually became known as one of the city's expert job printers, a line in which he had much success and in which he continued until 1879, when he joined his father and brothers in the manufacture and bottling of mineral waters and soft drinks, under the

style of J. Pabst & Sons, a concern that did a large and profitable business and which bore an excellent reputation in business circles. While he was prominent in business affairs, however, it was probably for his public service that Christian Pabst was best known. From his youth he had been interested in public matters and had been a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. In March, 1892, he was nominated as clerk of the Butler County Common Pleas Court, and was elected the same year for a term of three years. In 1895 he was again nominated to succeed himself. His nomination by the democracy of the county was equivalent to election, yet his signal triumph at the polls was beyond the most sanguine expectations of either himself or his friends, as he received the largest majority ever given in Butler county. He did much to systematize the work of the office of clerk of the court and gave the people a clean and intelligent administration. Mr. Pabst was nominated and elected to the office of county auditor in November, 1900, taking office October 21, 1901, and in the election of November, 1903, was chosen as his own successor. In 1907, his party placed him in nomination as a member of the board of public service and he was elected, holding that office for two years. In 1910, Governor Judson Harmon appointed Mr. Pabst as a member of the state tax commission for a term of three years, and Governor James M. Cox reappointed him in 1914, but in 1915 he resigned the office in order that he might devote all of his time to the bottling plant of The J. Pabst Sons Co. Throughout the time that he was the incumbent of public office he was extremely popular, and his record was one upon which there was not the slightest blemish. Mr. Pabst was always a staunch supporter of the public school system and did much to elevate its standards, and generaly speaking, is a booster for the city of Hamilton. In 1882 he was chosen one of the trustees of the Lane Free library, a position in which he was retained for many years. Fraternally he was also well known, belonging to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, The Modern Woodmen of America, and other fraternal and social societies. With his family he belonged to the German Evangelical church. April 15, 1896, Mr. Pabst married Catherine A., daughter of Peter Gerlach of Cleveland, and to this union there were born three sons: Robert P. and Warren J., twins, born November 12, 1898; and Herbert G., born March 15, 1901.

Fred Palmer. The Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill company has furnished the medium through which a number of the well-to-do residents of this community have found the opportunity to achieve position and independence. In this class of desirable, worthy citizens, is found Fred Palmer, who officiates as heater at the plant, and who is known as a skilled and steady workman who has won promotion on the strength of his own merit. Mr. Palmer was born at Lebanon, Ohio, January 9, 1879, a son of Clayton and Margaret Ellen (Wilson) Palmer. His father, a man of sterling worth of character, was for twenty-two years an employee of the Caldwell & Iseminger Lumber company, at Middletown, and died, greatly respected, in this city, December 24, 1909. Mrs. Palmer, who survives, is a highly esteemed resident of Middletown. There

are three children in the family: Fred; Mrs. Alice Rhineggar, of Middletown; and Mrs. Julia Cunningham, also of this city. Fred Palmer was educated in the public schools of Middletown, to which city he had been brought when still a child, and as a youth was associated for a time with his father in the mill of the Caldwell & Iseminger Lumber company. When he left the employ of that concern he secured a position with the American Rolling mill, and his steady habits, energetic work and close application brought him steady and deserved promotion until he reached the position which he now occupies, as a heater. He is one of the popular men of the plant, and also has numerous friends outside of his business circle. June 26, 1907, Mr. Palmer married Kate Kohler, who was born July 17, 1882, daughter of Martin Kohler, who is still a resident of Middletown, where her mother died in March, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are the parents of a bright and active little daughter, Alma K., who was born in 1909, and the pleasant home of the happy little family is located on Yankee road. As to politics, Mr. Palmer votes and stands for principle rather than party, and does not allow himself to be tied down by allegiance to any organization. He is a Mason, fraternally, and Mrs. Palmer is a faithful member of the Lutheran church, and takes an active part in its movements.

L. T. Palmer. In the realty field of Middletown, one of those men who have become prominent through their activities during recent years is L. T. Palmer, of whom it may be said that to his activities and altruistic impulses is due what is best in home subdivisions and home development in this city and the contiguous territory. After having planned and assisted in the development of five subdivisions, guarding them with careful supervision and wise restriction, Mr. Palmer's greatest pride is found in the reputation for fairness in all dealings with which his name is popularized. During his long career he has been the medium through which a number of important realty deals have been consummated, these strengthening him in public confidence and in the esteem of his fellow-operators. Mr. Palmer holds official relation to the Middletown Real Estate board, the Ohio Association of Real Estate boards and the National Association of Real Estate boards. He is interested in all activities looking toward the welfare and development of his city and his attitude is typical of the spirit that has made Middletown known and respected for progressiveness and strong civic pride.

Wilbur Gideon Palmer. In business and legal circles of Middletown, the name of Wilbur Gideon Palmer is recognized as that of a man of soundness, moral worth, practical experience and ripened judgment. In his career he has about equally divided his time between manufacturing and following his profession, and in the latter connection, which is now occupying his sole attention, he is serving his city efficiently in the capacity of city attorney, an office which he has held since 1914. Mr. Palmer was born in 1876 at Lockland, Hamilton county, Ohio, a son of Charles B. and Miranda (Dye) Palmer. The father was born in Knox county, Pa., from where he came to Ohio, as a child with his father, Job Palmer, and fought four years during the Civil war, as a member of the 83d Regiment, Ohio Vol-

unteer Infantry. Mrs. Palmer was a native of Troy, Ohio. Wilbur Gideon Palmer grew to manhood in Hamilton county, Ohio, receiving his education in the public schools of Dayton and Middletown. After leaving school, he entered the law office of Ben Harwitz, under whose preceptorship he remained three years, and was admitted to the state bar in 1898. Following this he spent two years at Holyoke, Mass., and upon his return to Middletown joined his father in the operation of the latter's flour mill and business, and was identified therewith until 1909. He proved himself an excellent business man, but his inclination was for the law, and in 1909 he opened an office and began the practice of his calling, in which he has been greatly successful, now being known as one of the leading members of the local bar. His interest in the welfare of the city has been made manifest in many ways and particularly in the manner in which he has discharged the duties of important official positions. For two years he was president of the city council of Middletown, and he can likewise be known as one of the city fathers, for he was a member of the committee which drew up the charter under which Middletown has been governed since 1914, and since January 1 of that year he has served as city attorney. His record in office is a splendid one which has been characterized by devotion to duty and conscientious endeavor to perform constructive and valuable service. Mr. Palmer is a stalwart Republican, and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally, he is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason. In 1903, Mr. Palmer married Naomi, daughter of Leonidas H. and Mary (McAdams) Butler, the former a Civil war veteran who was born at Middletown, and the latter a native of Putnam county, Ohio. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Palmer, namely: Douglas, Nan and Charles B.

Michael Panter, who formerly was an extensive farmer in Butler county, now lives comfortably retired on property he owns in Union township. Mr. Panter has spent many years in this section, is widely known and universally respected. He was born in 1848, in Germany, son of Jacob and Mary Panter, who spent their entire lives in Germany. They had eight children, Michael and Charles being the only ones to come to America. Michael Panter had some school training in boyhood and afterwards worked as a farmhand in Germany until he had accumulated enough to pay his passage to America, where he hoped to be able to acquire better rewards for his industry than were possible in his native province. In 1867, when nineteen years old, Michael Panter reached the United States and came to Belmont county, Ohio. He immediately found work as a farmhand and remained on farms near Crescent for eleven years, then went to California, where he worked as a miner for gold for the next five years. He returned to Ohio and for the next fifteen years rented land in Union township, Butler county, where he subsequently bought the valuable farm of 118 acres on which he yet lives. He married Mary Wirsch and they belong to the Catholic church. He votes with the Democratic party.

Henry Pater. More than forty years of association with the business interests of Hamilton have served to give Henry Pater

standing and prominence in commercial circles, as well as the opportunity to prove to his fellow-citizens his worth, reliability and integrity. Having his earliest training along the lines of the tannery business, during his whole career he has been identified to some extent with this form of business activity, but since he met, like others, a severe loss in the great flood of 1913, has also carried on a coal and feed business in addition and has found therein a goodly measure of success. Mr. Pater is a native son of Hamilton, and was born May 3, 1854, his parents being Henry and Elizabeth Pater. His parents came to Hamilton in 1849, and here the father, a tanner by trade, established himself in business in 1862, as the proprietor of a tannery, a business with which he was connected on Front street during the remainder of his active career. He and Mrs. Pater were the parents of five children: George, who married Margaret Hathway, who is now deceased; Elizabeth, who makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Vogt of Hamilton; Joseph, of Hamilton, who married Katie Kramer of this place and has four sons; Josephine, who married John Vogt of Hamilton and has six children; and Henry, of this notice. After attending St. Stephen's parochial school of Hamilton, the younger Henry Pater entered upon his apprenticeship to the tanner's trade, under the guidance and instruction of his father, through whose able tuition he became a thorough master of every detail of that vocation. He continued to be associated with the elder man in business until 1876, in which year he embarked upon a venture of his own, in the hide and leather line, with which he was identified for many years. He, like many other business men, suffered heavily during the flood of 1913, when his entire business was destroyed, causing a loss of some $15,000, and he was forced to start practically anew. For some time he had been considering the advisability of adding coal and feed to his business, and this gave him the opportunity to do so. When he resumed his business operations, accordingly, he was a fuel as well as a hide merchant, and has so continued to the present time, with ever-increasing success. He now handles hides, coal, wood, feed, grain and seeds, and has a large and modern equipped yard and offices at East avenue and Grand boulevard. In business circles of Hamilton his credit is an excellent one, solidly built upon the foundations of many years of honorable business transactions. Mr. Pater married Elizabeth, daughter of Eberhart and Elizabeth Tiemeyer, early settlers of Hamilton, and following his marriage built a home at No. 325 Pershing avenue. In 1897 he erected another residence, at No. 323 Pershing avenue, which is at present occupied by the family. Mr. and Mrs. Pater had six children: William; Harry, who died in infancy; Paul G., Ralph B., Robert G., and Markus. William Pater was born at Hamilton in 1886, was educated at St. Joseph's parochial school and the Hamilton Business college, and is now paying teller at the First National bank of Hamilton. He married Evelyn Teizer, and they have two children. Mr. Pater is a member of the Knights of Columbus. Paul G. Pater was born at Hamilton in 1890 and attended St. Joseph's parochial school and the Hamilton Business college. He is now mechanical engineer for the firm of Long & Alstatter, and a member

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS H. PAULIN

of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Pater and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Louisa Swain and was formerly a resident of Dayton, are the parents of two sons. Ralph B. Pater, born in 1892 at Hamilton, was educated at St. Joseph's parochial school and the Hamilton Business college, and is associated with his father in business at Hamilton. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Order of Elks, and married Mary Klein, formerly a resident of Evansville, Ind. Robert G. Pater was born at Hamilton in 1894, and received the same education as his brothers. He is a plumber by vocation, but is at present associated with his father in business. He married a Miss Getz, of Hamilton, and they make their home here. Markus Pater was born at Hamilton in 1897, received the same education as his brothers, and is also associated with his father in business. He is single and a member of the Knights of Columbus. The father of these children also belongs to this fraternal order, and he and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church.

Thomas H. Paulin. Of those supreme agencies which mold the tendencies and beckon most persistently to the mind of youth, none exceeds in potency the example of those who already have fought their battles and reached merited success. And who shall say that the lesson in the life of a good and capable man, next to the intelligent application of the forces within him for the benefit of mankind in general, is not the encouragement disseminated by his rise from obscurity to prominence? These reflections are brought forcibly to mind in the career of Thomas H. Paulin, whose devotion to the science of farming throughout his life won him a competence and a business reputation, and whose integrity at all times held the unqualified respect and confidence of his associates and acquaintances. Thomas H. Paulin was born on a farm in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, July 14, 1866, a son of Jeremiah and Sarah W. (Hagan) Paulin, the former of Wayne township and the latter of St. Clair township, Butler county. The father was an agriculturist all of his life and an honored, industrious and public-spirited citizen, and he and his wife were God-fearing people and consistent members of the local Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of three children: Thomas H.; Elizabeth, who died young; and a son who died in infancy. Thomas H. Paulin was educated in the district schools of Wayne township, and was reared in the same manner as other farmers' sons of his day and locality, assisting his father in the work of the home place and in the winter months applying himself to his educational training. After completing his studies he continued to live at home for several years, and then located on the old Witherow farm, which he operated for a time. Later, however, he moved to St. Clair township, where he continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits until the time of his death. Through his good management and unceasing energy he succeeded in his undertakings, and at the time of his demise, which occurred January 19, 1916, was the owner of 449 acres of valuable land. February 19, 1896, Mr. Paulin was united in marriage with Ida M., daughter of August and Elizabeth (Kriegenhofer) Steiger, of Hamilton, Ohio. Mr. Steiger was born in Germany and was a young man when he came to the

United States, locating at Hamilton, Ohio, where he continued to be engaged in following his trade of millwright until his death at the age of sixty-one years, August 17, 1902, his widow still surviving him in advanced years as a resident of Hamilton. They were the parents of ten children, as follows: John E., a millwright of Hamilton; August A., a blacksmith; Ida M., who became Mrs. Paulin; Lydia, the wife of William Ike, of Hamilton; Louis, a molder of Hamilton; Carl, a salesman of that city; Anna, the wife of R. C. Fillmore, of Hamilton; Nora, the wife of Melville Auraden, of Hamilton; Helena, the wife of Joseph Henninger, of Connersville, Indiana; and Frank, a millwright, of Hamilton. All of these children are faithful members of the Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Paulin were the parents of the following children: Melvin, a farmer of St. Clair township, who married Edna Ritter; Earl A., a salesman of Cleveland, Ohio; and Luther H., Thomas I., Marguerite, Sarah, Elizabeth and Willard P., are residing with their mother. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Paulin, who is a woman of exceptional ability and acumen, as well as of other accomplishments and many friendships, took over the management of his farm and business interests, and has made an unqualified success of her undertakings. In 1917 she took up her residence on the old John Augsperger farm in St. Clair township, purchased by her husband before his death. Having sold some of the land she now owns and operates 317 acres. She has a beautiful country home, and her farm is fully equipped with the latest machinery and equipment and made more valuable by the presence of good buildings and modern improvements. She is a consistent member of St. Paul's Lutheran church, while her late husband was a Methodist and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Seven Mile. Mr. Paulin for some years made a specialty of Polled Durham cattle and Chester White hogs, although he always carried on general farming. He was regarded as one of the most progressive and studious of farmers, a man whose intelligence and insight brought into his way the most enlightening and superior compensations of his calling, and who established a precedent worthy of all emulation, of dignified, paying and refined country existence. He had hosts of friends throughout Butler county and his business standing was exceeded by that of no other agriculturist in his township. Public-spirited and progressive, he joined in any enterprise calculated to advance the prosperity or happiness of the men, women and children who came within the range of his environment.

William H. Paulin, a retired farmer of Wayne township, can look back with pride upon years of productive activity as a farmer, and now enjoy the fruits of his labors in comfort and ease. He was born at Elk Creek, Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, January 2, 1847, a son of Isaac and Ellen (Schenck) Paulin, and grandson of Jeremiah P. Paulin. Jeremiah P. Paulin was born in Pennsylvania, and in young manhood followed the sea as an occupation, but later became a pioneer of Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, where he died, having had a large family. Isaac Paulin was born in Madison township, and was here reared, and always followed farming.

Securing land, he cleared it off, put it under cultivation, and developed it into a fine property. Later he bought more land, and became the owner of several farms. Originally a Whig, with the organization of the Republican party, he adopted its policies as his own, and gave its candidates his hearty support the remainder of his life. His death occurred December 29, 1917, but his widow survives and lives in Wayne township, Butler county. Although of advanced years, she retains her faculties, and talks very entertainingly of pioneer days and the part she and her husband took in them. Their children were as follows: William H., whose name heads this review; Jane, who is deceased, married D. J. Martz; Jeremiah, who lived and died near Jacksonboro, Ohio; Lydia W., who is the widow of C. A. Patton, now lives at Trenton, Ohio; George, who was a farmer, is now deceased; Laura, who is the wife of William Inman of Seven Mile, Ohio, and several who died in infancy. The late C. A. Patton, husband of Mrs. Lydia W. (Paulin) Patton, was born in Camden, Ohio, became a successful farmer, and was a trustee of his township and a director of the county infirmary. His death occurred December 29, 1917, and he and his wife had a daughter, Della, who is now the wife of Rudolph Inhoff of Trenton, Ohio. William H. Paulin received but limited educational instruction, his school attendance being confined to the common schools. He remained at home until he attained his majority, when he was married and moved on a farm east of Jacksonboro, Ohio, where he lived for twenty-five years, and then he bought 171 acres of land in Wayne township, where he has since resided. He remodeled the house, and made many other improvements, and until his retirement, several years ago, carried on farming and stock raising. William H. Paulin was united in marriage with Rachel Hinkle, born in Madison township, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Hinkle, prominent people and prosperous farmers of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Paulin became the parents of two sons, William, who was brought up to be a farmer and stockman like his father, and one who died in infancy. During his boyhood, he attended the local schools. At present he holds a state position on public highway work. William Paulin married Eva Brelsford, and they have three sons—Charles, Robert Isaac and John. Mrs. William H. Paulin died in July, 1918, aged sixty-eight years. She was known for her many beautiful traits of character, and is mourned by many outside of her family circle. Mr. Paulin cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for the presidency, and has voted the Republican ticket ever since. His inclinations are not such as to make him aspire to public honors, and he has never sought office. Well known in his neighborhood, he is recognized as a representative of the best element in the county, and a man of sterling character.

Frank B. Pauly. The progress and development of any live and energetic community is generally reflected in its representative of the Fourth Estate, and the hustling and thriving city of Middletown, with its 27,000 population has a worthy representative in this direction in the Middletown Journal, which enters the homes and business houses of the city and surrounding country to the

number of 4,100 daily issues. Frank B. Pauly, editor and manager of this modern newspaper, is a citizen who has contributed materially to his community's advancement and prosperity. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, April 13, 1887, the second of three sons of Elwood B. and Mary K. (Schwerer) Pauly. His elder brother, Fred L., is manager of a large mail order business at Lebanon; and his younger brother, Karl B., is a student at the Ohio State university, where he is preparing himself for a career in journalism, having formerly been associated with his brother in the publication of the Journal. Elwood B. Pauly was born at Lebanon, Ohio, where he was educated in the public schools, and the greater part of his business life was passed as a merchant. He was an ardent supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and belonged to the Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Pauly, a native of Shelby county, Ohio, and now a resident of Middletown, is also a member. Frank B. Pauly received a good common school education at Lebanon and subsequently entered Lebanon university, from which he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science. At the age of nineteen years he embarked in journalism at Lebanon, and later gained experience while connected with newspapers at Keokuk and Des Moines, Iowa, and Dayton, Ohio. Finally locating at Middletown, in 1912, he became city editor of the Middletown Journal, and in 1914 assumed entire charge of this newspaper as editor and manager. In these capacities he has brought the paper forward to a recognized position among the publications of Butler county, and work is now in progress on the Journal's new home, a modern structure of brick, stone and reinforced concrete, erected at a cost of $60,000. This building, in addition to being modern in every detail, will be equipped with the latest and most highly improved machinery, making possible the expeditious production of a twentieth century newspaper. Mr. Pauly is a writer of force and a man of excellent professional ethics, and is giving his readers a worthy, clean and entirely authentic and reliable newspaper. He has the full confidence of his associates and the general public, and occupies a place of preferment in journalistic circles. Politically, he is a Republican, having cast his first presidential vote for William McKinley, and his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. His career has been one of constant advancement, culminating in success at a time in life when most men are just completing their plans, and personally he is representative of true middle western push, enterprise and energy.

C. O. Pentecost, one of the business men of College Corner, has passed his entire life in enterprises connected with farming hardware trade, in which he is widely and favorably known. He has built up an excellent business through the medium of his own industry and good business management, and at the same time has retained the unquestioned confidence of the public as to his entire integrity and his public spirit in matters pertaining to the performance of the duties of citizenship. Mr. Pentecost was born on a farm in Union township, Union county, Ind., September 5, 1866,

FRANK E. PEPPER EDNA PEPPER MRS. FRANK E. PEPPER

a son of William E. and Anna L. Pentecost. His grandparents were pioneers of that locality, where his grandfather passed his life as a farmer, and where the grandmother still made her home, in advanced years. William E. Pentecost was a lifelong farmer in Union county, his native place, and rounded out a useful and successful life, dying with the respect and esteem of his fellowmen, and his widow, now Mrs. James S. Willis, is a resident of Martinsville, Ind., where she is greatly beloved because of her many excellencies of mind and heart. There were two children in the family: Orpha, who is now Mrs. William McNutt, of Martinsville, Ind.; and C. O. C. O. Pentecost was given only a public school education, and when he was a lad of eighteen years entered upon his own career, receiving a meager wage in farming, while learning the business. He gradually advanced in position and remuneration, and continued to be thus employed until 1905, when he bought the stock and good will of E. C. Wright, at College Corner, and since that time has continued in the hardware, implements, tinning and plumbing business. Mr. Pentecost has made a substantial and established place for himself in the community, where he has been found reliable, competent, prompt and courteous, and in this way has built up a large, growing and representative patronage among the best people in the thriving little city. Mr. Pentecost was married to Margaret, daughter of Frank and Lucy Sanford, of Union county, Ind., and they are the parents of one child, Verna, who was educated in the public schools and is the wife of Willard Birch, of Liberty, Ind.

Frank E. Pepper. Although he entered the political field but comparatively few years ago, Frank E. Pepper, sheriff of Butler county, is already accounted an influential factor in the public and official affairs of this section. For many years he was connected with railroad work, and during that time formed a wide acquaintance at Hamilton and in other parts of Butler county, at the same time establishing a splendid reputation for fidelity and honorable action that did much to gain him the shrievalty. Mr. Pepper is a native son of Butler county, and was born at Overpeck, January 20, 1868, his parents being William and Amanda (Wehr) Pepper. The parents were also born at Overpeck, and the father followed the vocation of stationary engineer until his enlistment at Hamilton in Company I, 5th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, for service in the Civil war. At the close of his military career he returned to Butler county and was there engaged in farming up to the time of his death. Mrs. Pepper died in 1877. They were the parents of two children: Frank E., of this notice; Harry Lee, a farmer, who married Mary Rounds and resides in Madison township. Frank E. Pepper was educated in the public school at Trenton, Ohio, where he completed his studies at the age of fifteen years. Like numerous other lads, and particularly those who are reared in the rural districts, he was early attracted to railroading, and when he left school managed to secure employment with the C. H. & D. railroad. He first acted as a timekeeper, was then promoted to become a member of the construction gang, and finally secured

train service, being given an opportunity as fireman on a locomotive. From this place he worked his way up to the post of engineer on a freight train, and eventually was given a passenger run, his engineer services in all covering a period of fifteen years. He then resigned in 1903 and purchased a farm in Lemon township on Dixie Highway. For some years Mr. Pepper had been greatly interested in Democratic politics and was considered one of the valuable men of his party at Hamilton. In 1912 he was appointed deputy sheriff under Sheriff Metcalf of Butler county, and during the next four years discharged his duties in an entirely capable and conscientious manner. In the election of January, 1916, he was the successful candidate of his party for the shrievalty, taking office in January, 1917, and his first administration was so satisfactory to the people that he was again chosen for the office in 1918. Sheriff Pepper possesses the attributes which make a man successful in an office of the nature that he holds. His courage has never been questioned; he is steadfast and strict in the interpretation of the law as it affects his duties; is tireless in the pursuit of evildoers, and possesses no small amount of detective ability. These qualities make of a man an excellent officer of the law and such Sheriff Pepper has proved himself to be. He was married July 17, 1895, to Pauline, daughter of Valentine and Marie Laubach, farming people of Lemon township, Butler county, and to this union there has come one daughter, Edna Paulina, born January 1, 1897, a graduate of Western college, Oxford, Ohio, who will in 1919 enter upon her duties as teacher of mathematics at the latter institution. Sheriff Pepper, during the war period, was active in assisting in the sale of Bonds and in swelling the War Chest. He has always been a progressive citizen and a practical booster for constructive movements for his community, where he has made many warm and sincere friends. As a fraternalist he has attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry and is a Knight Templar and a Shriner, and also holds membership in the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

John Pfalzgraf. Among the long-established business enterprises of Trenton, Ohio, one which has gained community approval and patronage by reason of capable and honorable management is the butcher business conducted by John Pfalzgraf. Mr. Pfalzgraf has not only earned the people's confidence as an upright merchant, but as a conscientious and high-minded official as well, having served two terms in the capacity of township treasurer, beginning 1883. His record in business and public life is one that is worthy of emulation. Born in 1849, at Essen Kurhessen, Germany, he was six years of age when brought to this country by his parents, George Henry and Elizabeth Pfalzgraf. The family settled at Trenton, where the father engaged in the butcher business, and while he disposed of a part of his commodity in his home community, he made frequent trips to Hamilton in the early days to dispose of his wares and had a good and representative patronage. Both this highly respected citizen and his worthy and estimable wife have been dead for many years. They were the parents of two

children: Mrs. Anna Helweg, a resident of Trenton; and John. John Pfalzgraf was given his education in the early public schools of Trenton and learned the trade of butcher under the training of his father. He grew up in the business, became associated with his father as a partner, and when the latter retired assumed management of the enterprise of which he became sole proprietor at the time of his father's death. He has built up an excellent business through fair and honorable dealing and has retained the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. As a citizen Mr. Pfalzgraf has been a factor in public-spirited movements for the betterment of his community, and his two years of service in the capacity of township treasurer have been characterized by a fine sense of public responsibility. With his family, he belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Pfalzgraf married Caroline Schaaf, of Trenton, a native of Germany, and they became the parents of six children: George Henry, deceased; Charles, deceased; Elmer, of Cincinnati, who married Mamie Kumberger; Anna, the wife of Frank Brelsford, a real estate man and butcher of Trenton and a member of the board of Butler county commissioners; Alva, who married William Gunter, of Trenton; and John P., who is deceased.

Charles Pfister. The deserved reward of a well-spent life is an honored retirement from activities, in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil. Today, after a useful and beneficial career, Charles Pfister is quietly living at his pleasant home at Oxford, surrounded by the comfort that earnest labor has brought him. For many years he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, and he is still the owner of a large and valuable farm in Oxford township. Mr. Pfister was born in Clinton county, Ohio, September 29, 1851, a son of John and Margaret (Schuster) Pfister, natives of Germany. His parents came as young people to the United States, each settling at Cincinnati, where they met and were married, and in that city the father followed the trade of harness making, which he had learned in his native land, for more than thirty years. He then moved to Clinton county, settling near Lynchburg, where he rounded out his long and honorable career, following both his trade and farming. Of the ten children of this worthy couple, three sons, Jacob, Michael and John, served as soldiers of the Union during the Civil war, for four years, and Jacob was captured and held for some time by the enemy. Those who survive are: Elizabeth, the wife of William Kluck, of Hamilton; Adam, a resident of Lynchburg; John, who lives in Clinton county; and Charles. The public schools of Clinton county furnished the medium through which Charles Pfister secured his educational training, and when his studies were completed he applied himself to learning the trade of carpenter, a vocation which he followed with success at Cincinnati for a period of twenty-six years. He then went to Oxford, where he continued to follow his trade for about two years, but on his removal to Oxford township, to a farm which he had previously purchased, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and made that his occupation until the time of his retirement. He is a member of the Lutheran church, as is also Mrs. Pfister, is a Republican

in his political adherence, and during the war was a cheerful and generous contributor to all war activities. Mr. Pfister was married March 20, 1880, to Anna, daughter of Fred and Catherine (Kirchmer) Becker, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Madison, Ohio. There were five children in the Becker family: Clara, Katie, Fred, Tillie and Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Pfister have three children: Fred, who, after having served as engineer for the city of Oxford for five years, continued operations on his father's Oxford township farm, his father having retired from agricultural pursuits in 1918—he married Grace Mitchell; Margaret, who is a teacher in the public schools and a graduate of Miami university teachers college; and Arthur, who entered the United States Army and for a time was stationed at Camp Taylor, and after having served ten months was honorably discharged as sergeant, to take up his duties as bookkeeper for the H. S. Coulter Transportation company of Oxford, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Pfister are widely known in the vicinity of Oxford as desirable and substantial citizens, and those who know them best are numbered among their warmest friends.

William D. Phares. Few men who attain the age of eighty-two years bear so few of the marks and scars of the struggles of war and of peace as does William D. Phares, now living in retirement in Wayne township, Butler county. In a vast majority of cases those who attain a goodly measure of success cannot justly claim that their paths have not been strewn with the wrecks of other men's fortunes. This honored veteran of the Civil war, however, is one who has attained material prosperity for himself and at the same time has enjoyed in full measure the honor and respect of his fellow-men by reason of the straightforward business policy which he has ever followed. Mr. Phares was born on the old Phares homestead, in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, December 16, 1837, a son of George W. and Jane (Withrow) Phares, and a grandson of a native of New Jersey. George W. Phares, also a native of that state, came therefrom to Butler county with three brothers, and settled on the homestead now owned by his son, where he carried on his farming operations until his somewhat early death, in 1841, his widow surviving him until 1857, when she passed away at the old home. There were eight children in the family: James W., Amy, Sarah, Ellen, Marabe, Elizabeth, James and William D. William D. Phares was but four years of age at the time of his father's death, and as his boyhood was largely given over to hard work he had little chance to gain more than the rudiments of an education. He remained on the old home place until his enlistment, in August, 1862, in Company G, 83d Regiment, O. V. I., under Capt. John B. Gary and Colonel Moore, and was sent to Dayton, later to Cincinnati, and then into Kentucky, where his active service commenced. He served gallantly and faithfully for three years, during which time he took part in many engagements, among which was the siege of Vicksburg, and was honorably discharged in the fall of 1865 and returned to his home. At once resuming the role of agriculturist, he took up the operation of the

farm where he had left off, and in the years that followed made a decided success of his work and rose to a place where he was able to retire, in 1895. In that year he removed to Seven Mile, where he made his home for twenty years, but eventually returned to the scene of his birth, boyhood and manhood, and there now makes his home, surrounded by all comforts. Mr. Phares has always been an industrious, hard-working man, but his long years of labor have left him well preserved, active in body and alert in mind. He is a staunch Republican, although not a politician, and, as his acquaintance is large in this community and his friendships many, his influence counts for something during party elections. Mr. Phares was married in 1861 to Esther Pottinger, of Preble county, Ohio, who died in February, 1915, at the age of seventy-three years. They were the parents of two children: Mary B. and Harry C. Mary B. Phares married James B. King, a farmer of Wayne township, and they had seven children,—Claude, Marie, Alvin, Amy, Hester and Harry, the last two named being deceased. Harry C. Phares, who is engaged in farming his father's property in Wayne township, married Lena Heiland, and they had three children,—Cecil A., Laurence A. and William D. For his second wife, Harry C. Phares married Cornelia, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Vinnedge) Skillman, natives respectively of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and farming people of Hamilton county, O., both of whom are deceased.

Evan Philips. Many years of active, well-directed industry, combined with provident saving, have enabled Evan Philips, one of Middletown's well-known and highly esteemed citizens, to be able to retire while yet in the prime of life and capable of enjoying the ample fortune he accumulated in earlier years. During his active period Mr. Philips worked hard, for years being a skilled employee of some of the largest mill companies in the world. He was born at Bristol, England, March 8, 1866, son of Evan and Sarah (Gee) Philips. His father was a rolling mill man in England. Mr. Philips is one of a family of five children. His two brothers, Albert and Harry, are deceased, but his two sisters survive and live in England, Laura, wife of John Goodfield, and Caroline, wife of C. Heffer. In May, 1881, Mr. Philips came to the United States and found work as a roller in the steel mills of Pittsburg, afterward working at St. Louis, Bessemer, Riverside and Wheeling, W. Va., then came to Piqua, Ohio, and from there to Middletown, in February, 1900. July 10, 1894, he married Miss Ada, daughter of James and Constance (Petty) Hood, of Covington, and they have one son, Gordon, who was graduated from the high school at Piqua in 1918, and is now attending the Ohio State university, where he is pursuing a course in chemistry. During the late war Gordon was a member of Camp Grant at Illinois, where he took the officers' training for second lieutenant. Mr. Philips and his family are members of the Episcopal church. While not decidedly active in political life, he has given considerable study to public questions since coming to the United States and gives his support to the Republican party. He is identified fraternally with the Masons and the Elks.

Robert W. Pinkerton. A comparatively recent addition to the citizenship of Middletown, Robert W. Pinkerton has already established himself in the confidence of the community, where he is identified in a business way with the firm of Caldwell & Iseminger. Mr. Pinkerton was born July 5, 1859, in Fayette county, Ohio, a son of Joseph M. and Rebecca Jane (Lunbeck) Pinkerton. His father was born in 1824, in Fayette county, where the family is an old one, well known and highly respected, and was married in August, 1845, his wife having been born January 4, 1824, in Highland county, this state. They became the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, but only three now survive: Miss Ella Belle, of Greenfield, Ohio; Joseph A., of Springfield, this state; and Robert W. The mother of these children passed away January 7, 1873, while the father survived until September 14, 1905, having reached the advanced age of eighty-one years. Robert W. Pinkerton was reared in his native county, where he received the advantages furnished by a public school education, and in his youth was variously employed. He was married March 25, 1891, to Miss Margaret Thompson, daughter of John and Virginia (Brown) Thompson, and granddaughter of Alexander and Margaret (Dickinson) Thompson. Her great-great-grandfather Dickinson was a Revolutionary soldier, and one of a committee of five from Delaware who assisted in the framing of the Constitution of the United States. On the maternal side, her grandfather, Thomas Browne, fought in three wars of this country, those of 1812-14, the Mexican and the Civil war. He was only twelve years of age when he went as drummer boy in the first war. Mrs. Pinkerton's father died in August, 1903, while her mother still survives. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pinkerton, namely: Carl Vivian, who was born July 24, 1893. He died August 14, 1901; Raymond Alvin, born May 23, 1895, who enlisted in the United States Marines, May 31, 1917. Was assigned to 80th Company, 6th Regiment Marines, went to France January, 1918, where the 5th and 6th Marines were joined with the 9th and 23d Infantry, forming the Second Division of the Army. Raymond went to the front March 17th in Alsace-Lorraine. June 1, 1918, went to the Chateau Thierry sector, was there thirty-three days, went to Soissons July 17, and on June 19, the 6th Marine and 23d Infantry went over the top, and Raymond made the "Supreme Sacrifice." He fell in the Battle of Soissons. Frank Leslie, born May 27, 1897, enlisted June 1, 1918, in the Coast Artillery, was subsequently transferred to the Railroad Artillery. Went overseas in September Replacement Troops. Was in no active engagements and returned to the United States December 31, 1919, was honorably discharged from the Army January 23, 1919. Lela Alice, born July 20, 1900, graduated from the Middletown High school, with first honors, in commercial course, in June, 1919. Robert Elbert, born January 20, 1904, who is employed by the Advance Bag company at Middletown. On coming to Middletown from Washington Court House, Ohio, in 1917, Mr. Pinkerton became identified with the firm of Caldwell & Iseminger. He has strongly impressed his personality on those with whom he has come in contact, as a man of great force of character,

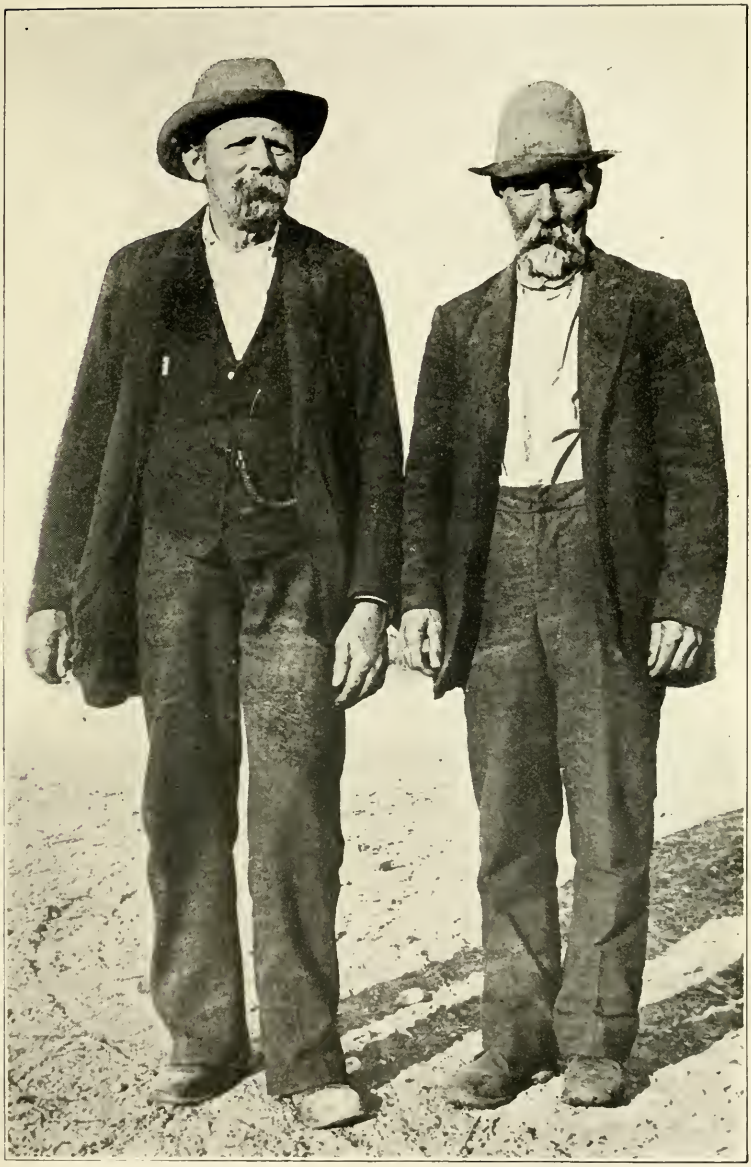
good judgment and sound ability, as well as a citizen of constructive ideas. He is a Republican in his political inclinations, but somewhat liberal in his actions. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church, as is also that of Mrs. Pinkerton, a woman of superior mental endowments, who is well informed regarding all the important topics of the day.

Frank Albertus Piper. In the working forces of the American Rolling mill at Middletown, is found Frank Albertus Piper, who is employed in the capacity of roller. He was born at Salisbury, Somerset county, Pa., April 20, 1875, a son of Joseph and Catherine (Larmer) Piper, the former born near Ligonier, Pa., and the latter near Salisbury. Following their marriage, the parents settled near Salisbury, where they rounded out long and useful careers, the father dying February 6, 1895, and the mother May 12, 1907. There were thirteen children in the family: Edith, who became Mrs. James Trees, of Newcomerstown, Ohio; Wilson, of Salisbury, Pa.; Milton and Howard, of Ambridge, Pa.; Bess, the wife of William Robeson, of Tarrytown, Pa.; Harry, of Salisbury; Charles, of Irving, Pa.; Frank Albertus; Samuel, of Blaisdell, Pa.; Alice and Lewis, deceased; Joseph, of Salisbury; and Fern, who died in infancy. Frank Albertus Piper was educated in the public schools of Salisbury, and there grew to manhood. He was married November 30, 1904, to Mary McNeil, who was born September 22, 1880, at Salisbury, daughter of Robert Boerland and Hannah Jane (Ewing) McNeil. On the maternal side Mrs. Piper's mother was of the McCombs and on the paternal side she is descended from the McKelveys of Scotch-Irish extraction. Mrs. Piper's parents, who are still living, had four children: Mary; Fannie Myrtilla, who is now Mrs. Joseph Piper and has two children, Martha and Mary; Charles; and Clare, residing at Saltsburg, Pa. Robert B. McNeil, father of Mrs. Piper, during the early part of his career followed farming as a vocation, but subsequently turned his attention to commercial pursuits, and for a time was engaged in the furniture business, but for some years has been the proprietor of a grocery. He is one of the directors in the bank of his home city and an elder in the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Piper, following their marriage, resided at Salisbury until 1911, in which year they took up their residence at Middletown, where they have since established numerous friendships. Upon his arrival in this city Mr. Piper entered the service of the American Rolling mill, where he has since been employed in the capacity of a roller, and has been found a good workman, steady, reliable, skilled and faithful, winning the esteem of his employers and the friendship and regard of his fellow-employees. While he is of a rather retiring disposition he has always shown himself a good citizen, interested in those things which make for the betterment and advancement of the community. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masons and Odd Fllows, while politically he belongs to the Republican party. He and Mrs. Piper are consistent members of the Oakland Presbyterian church.

Albert E. Pitt. Among those who have found the knowledge of a skilled trade a stepping-stone to advanced position, one whose

career may be cited as an illustration of the value of energy and close application, is Albert E. Pitt, foreman of the sheet department at the plant of the American Rolling mill, at Middletown. Mr. Pitt is a member of the distinguished family for which was named the city of Pittsburg, and was born in that city, although he is not of the direct line, his parents, Edward D. and Margaret (Jarvis) Pitt, as well as his grandfather, Henry Pitt, being natives of England. The parents of Mr. Pitt were married near London, England, and shortly thereafter emigrated to the United States and settled at Pittsburg, where they had numerous relatives. There the father became connected with the iron industry, with which he was identified the greater part of his life, and died in November, 1908, at Pittsburg, where the widowed mother still makes her home. There were five children in the family: Harry E., of Cambridge, Ohio; Mary Emmeline, a young woman of brilliant literary talents, who is connected with one of the leading Pittsburg publications; Albert E., of this notice; William E., also a resident of Pittsburg; and Queena, who is deceased. Albert E. Pitt was educated in the public schools of his native city and when he had laid aside his studies secured employment in the rolling mill at Cambridge, Ohio. There he remained until 1911, when he came to Middletown to accept a position in the new plant of the American Rolling mill, and from that position he has been steadily advanced, because of his ability and fidelity, to the office of foreman of the sheet department. He is popular with his companions and trusted by his employers, and has numerous friends, both at the plant and in other circles. In 1910, while a resident of Guernsey county, Ohio, he became the candidate of the Republican party for the state senatorship. He waged an earnest, clean and brilliant campaign, but although he carried his home community by a handsome majority the state went strongly Democratic, and Mr. Pitt, who had polled the biggest vote ever given a Republican in his district, went down to defeat with his party. In politics primarily a Republican, he is inclined to be liberal. He is a champion of the dry element, and was one of the pioneers in the suffrage movement. As a fraternalist, Mr. Pitt belongs to the Masons, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree, also a Knight Templar and Shriner. Mr. Pitt was married at Youngstown, Ohio, November 26, 1903, to Minnie May, daughter of Charles and Catherine (Tregoweth) Williams, natives of England, who came to Ohio in early days, the father, having been a stone and brick mason for years. His widow still survives. Mrs. Pitt had sisters and brothers as follows: Charles, of Youngstown, Ohio; Katie, the wife of Elmer Barger of Boardman, Ohio; Beatrice, the wife of Robert Daum, of Pittsburg, Pa.; John, of Struthers, Ohio; Olive, who is Mrs. Ernest Price, of Vandergrift, Pa.; and Richard T., of Youngstown. Mr. and Mrs. Pitt, who are young people of splendid intellect, have a charming home on Superior avenue. They are members of the Methodist church and take an active part in its movements.

Michael Poast. One of the few residents of Butler county who can lay claim to pioneer residence here, Michael Poast is also one of the few remaining who can also boast of active services during the



MICHAEL POAST AND WM. B. LONG

Civil war. This retired citizen of Madison township also has the distinction of belonging to one of the old and honored families of this locality, and was born at Poast Town, named in honor of the family, December 16, 1841, his parents being Peter P. Poast and Catherine (Brown) Poast. His paternal grandfather, Peter P. Poast the elder, was born in New Jersey, and became an early settler of Ohio, settling here in territorial days and subsequently becoming widely known through his activities in business and otherwise and the influence which he swayed in local affairs. He drove through to Poast Town, then a small and unimportant settlement, with a team, and later made the journey back to his native state on horseback. A progressive man in many ways, he was the first to introduce pear trees in this part of Ohio, and when the community of Poast Town acquired the size entitling it to the dignity of a name, it was given the title of Poast Town. Mr. Poast had a large tract of land, covered with a heavy growth of timber, which he subsequently cleared and improved, and at the time of his death, when past eighty years of age, was a prosperous farmer. This sturdy and worthy old pioneer married a Miss Van Toil, and they became the parents of six children: Peter P., Michael, Martha Ellen, Mattie, Polly and Eliza. Peter P. Poast the younger was born at Poast Town, where he was educated in the home schools, and grew to manhood, inheriting his father's sterling qualities and developing his business capacity. He married Catherine Brown, a native of Pennsylvania, and not long thereafter built a grist and saw mill on Brown Run, this being operated by water power. In addition to this business he was the owner of good farming lands, and acquired something more than a local reputation because of his ability as a trader. Later, he located at Poast Town, where he had two large cooper shops, and developed this business amazingly for his time and locality, at times employing as many as thirty men. In business circles he was admired for his capacity and integrity and his reputation was beyond reproach. His death occurred in 1847, while his wife passed away in 1891. They were the parents of seven children: William B., deceased, who followed the occupations of broom maker and cooper; Eliza, who married Martin Beam, and resides at Poast Town; Peter P., who died in 1908, aged seventy-two years and single, was one of the best known men of Poast Town, where for a half a century he was engaged in various lines of business, principally as a merchant and grain dealer; Sarah, who is deceased; Michael, of this notice; Emily Jane, who died in 1866; and Catherine, who died the same year. Michael Poast was educated in the public schools of Poast Town, and resided at home with his parents until, like other youths of his time, he was stirred by the call of the Union for troops to combat the forces of secession. He was but eighteen years of age when he enlisted, in April, 1861, at Middletown, becoming a member of Company G, 12th O. V. I. At the expiration of his three months of service he re-enlisted, becoming a member of Company B, 2d Regiment, O. V. I., and was sent to Eastern Kentucky for one winter, the regiment then joining the Army of the Cumberland. His services covered three years and seven months, during which time he par-

ticipated in a number of hard-fought engagements, notable among which were Perryville, Stone River, Chickasaw Bayou and Resaca, and his record was that of a faithful and brave soldier, courageous and valiant in action, and always found at the post of his duty. When his military service was completed he returned to Poast Town, and embarked in business ventures of various kinds at different places. For sixteen years he was in the tobacco business with his brother, Peter P. Poast III, and was also associated with him in the store and in the grain business. Eventually he purchased his present farm, in section 14, Madison township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his recent retirement. He is now the possessor of a comfortable competence, so that he has surrounded himself with the comforts of life, which are his just due after a lifetime of industry and faithful endeavor. Mr. Poast was married in 1876 to Miss Mabel Thompson of Germantown, O., who died in the spring of 1907, leaving two sons: Peter P., of Cincinnati, who married Susie Foster; and Martin M. The latter enlisted in the Spanish-American war and saw three years of service in the Philippine Islands, following which he was for two years a member of the police force at Manila. He then went to China, where he was engaged in railroad construction work for two years, returning then to Manila, where he is connected with railroad work at this time. He is unmarried. Michael Poast has never lost his interest in the G. A. R., and is a popular comrade of the local post of that organization, whose ranks are thinning so rapidly. He has always voted the Republican ticket and is a staunch supporter of its principles and candidates, as he is also of all constructive movements which have for their object the advancement of the general welfare. His friendships in the county are numerous, being limited only by the number of his acquaintances, which is large.

George Polster, who is one of Union township's best farmers, has spent almost his entire life here, having come to this township with his parents when ten years old. He was born in 1859, in Pennsylvania, son of John G. and Maggie Polster, who were born in Germany. After coming to the United States they settled in Pennsylvania and there John G. Polster engaged in farming until 1869, when he brought his family to Butler county, Ohio, purchased land in Union township, and for many years afterward carried on farming and stock raising here, in the meanwhile rearing a large family comfortably and taking his place with the representative men of his neighborhood. Mr. Polster has been retired from active life for about twenty years and now has the distinction of being the oldest resident of Union township in point of age. His wife passed away in 1905. They had nine children born to them and the following are living: Anna, Maggie, Kate and George. George Polster attended the public schools before coming to Ohio, and afterward assisted his father on the home farm, of which he has had entire charge since about 1899. His long experience as a farmer has made his judgment valuable in agricultural matters and there are few farms of sixty-one acres in the township more carefully cultivated or making more profitable returns. Mr. Polster has always been a fair-

minded citizen, has done his part with others in public-spirited movements promising to be of substantial benefit to the township, but he has never desired any public office and has always cast an independent vote. Mr. Polster is unmarried.

George Popp. Prominent among the native sons of half a century's residence in Reily township, Butler county, is George Popp, whose life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits, which have formed the medium through which his well-merited success has been attained. Mr. Popp was born near Hamilton, Ohio, April 1, 1865, a son of George and Ann Maria (Eichler) Popp, natives of Germany who came as young people to the United States and met and were married in Butler county, Ohio. In 1866 George Popp the elder bought a farm in Reily township, near Bunker Hill, and there carried on operations for some years, but later purchased a property, part of which now includes the farm of his son George. Although he started in life in a small way, Mr. Popp was a hard-working man and an excellent manager, and succeeded in the accumulation of 220 acres of land, as well as in securing the unqualified success and confidence of those with whom he came in contact in his various transactions. He was a Democrat in his political adherence, and he and Mrs. Popp were faithful members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Hamilton. They were the parents of the following children: Ann, who married August Hinkle, of Reily township; Lizzie, who married Russell Irwin, of Reily township; Kate, who married John Kellerman, both being deceased; Barbara, deceased, who was the wife of Leonard Eichler; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of Frank Flora; Andrew, who married Mary Wehr of Middletown, and is now deceased; George, of this review; and John, a farmer of Reily township, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work. The public schools of Reily township furnished the medium through which George Popp, the younger, secured his educational training, and when he had laid aside his school books he again took up the work of the home farm, where he continued to assist his father as a hand until his marriage. August 14, 1895, he was united in matrimony with Mary Clopper, of Butler county, and they are the parents of six children, all residing at home: Edith, John, Gilbert, who married Burneida Lowe of Reily township; Clara, Anna and Dorothea. Following his marriage, Mr. Popp located on his present farm, a part of the homestead, where he owns eighty-seven acres of land, all in an excellent state of cultivation. His improvements and equipment make evident the fact that he is a man of modern tendencies and ideas and of an industrious and energetic character, and his general farming and hog and cattle raising operations are prosecuted with marked vigor and discernment. A prominent Democrat and ardent supporter of Jeffersonian principles, he has been averse to office holding, contenting himself with aiding the cause of men who are qualified morally as well as intellectually to mould political affairs of the community. He and Mrs. Popp are consistent members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church of Hamilton, and their children have been reared in that faith.

John Popp. A sample of that material which has brought Butler

county into the limelight as a prosperous agricultural center, is found in John Popp. Endowed with average ability and backed by industry and shrewd judgment, this energetic farmer has worked his way to the ownership of 107 acres of productive land in Reily township, which he is devoting to general farming. Mr. Popp was born in Reily township, Butler county, Ohio, December 30, 1871, a son of George Popp, sr., who was born in Germany and died in Butler county in 1905, at the age of eighty-two years. In 1859 he was married to Anna Maria Eichler, also a native of Germany, who died December 30, 1915, aged seventy-nine years. In 1866 they bought a farm in Reily township, near Bunker Hill, on which their son, George, jr., now lives, but passed their final years on the farm now occupied by their son John. The father, while he started in a small way, worked himself to the top through industry and good business management, and at the time of his demise was justly accounted one of the substantial men of his community. He was well known and highly respected, was an active member of the Democratic party, and he and his wife were faithful members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Hamilton. Their children were eight in number, as follows: Kate, born in November, 1859, who died in 1883; Barbara, born in April, 1861, who died in 1911, at the age of fifty years; Andrew, born April 8, 1863, who lives at Middletown, Ohio; George, born April, 1865, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work; Mary, born April 28, 1868, who died March 17, 1916; Anna, born December 31, 1871, who married Gus Hinkle, a farmer in Reily township; Elizabeth, born July 21, 1875, who married Russell Irwin, of Reily township; and John. John Popp attended District School No. 7, in Reily township, and lived at home, assisting his father until the elder man's retirement, after which the son took care of his parents in their declining years. He was married April 15, 1903, to Lena Heintzelmann, of Fairfield township, who died in March, 1904, leaving one child, who died at the age of eight years. March 6, 1905, Mr. Popp married Georgie Maud Overly, of Mason county, Ky., born August 27, 1881, and they became the parents of six children: George, born March 9, 1906; Anna Ethel, born October 6, 1907; Andrew, born October 11, 1909; Ril, born April 15, 1911; Francis, born March 6, 1914; and Raymond, born October 11, 1915. Mr. Popp has always lived on the old home place, and at present is the owner of 107 acres of highly cultivated and valuable land. He carries on a general farming business and his farm gives indications of progressive methods on every hand and of a struggle to attain to the best thus far achieved in agricultural science. He is a Democrat in his political allegiance, although not a seeker for political honors, and his religious connection and that of his family, is with the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church of Hamilton.

Arthur Berton Price, who is a representative citizen of Butler county, where he is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits, belongs to an old and substantial family of Ohio, which can be traced to his grandparents, William and Anna (Graft) Price, once people of consequence in Warren county. There he was born, son of Abraham and Catherine (Baird) Price, the latter of whom was a cousin of

JOHN A. PRICE AND FAMILY

Mrs. William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Price has two sisters and two brothers, namely: Anna, wife of William Passon; William, a resident of Darke county; Flora, wife of P. Simes; and Clifford, who married Mary Sauter. Like many other substantial men of today, Arthur Berton Price has built up his ample fortune through his own efforts. He had school opportunities in boyhood and grew up on a farm, and an agricultural life has always been his preference. Quite recently Mr. Price has acquired by purchase, one of the noted old properties of Butler county long known as the Stokes homestead, lying near Seven Mile, Ohio. The farm contains 160 acres of richly fertile land, and the imposing brick residence, an old landmark, was built by Gilbert Cox, grandfather of Governor James M. Cox. Mr. Price married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John and Christina Durr, who were born in Germany, and they have five children, as follows: Robert, who married Ethel Burdge; Anna, who is widely known as a gifted pianist; Clara, who is the wife of Benjamin Burdge; and Earl, and Mildred Louise, both of whom reside at home. These children have all enjoyed educational as well as social advantages and their acquaintance is wide. The family belongs to the Lutheran church. While never unduly active in the political field, Mr. Price always gives staunch support to the Republican party, from conscientious motives, however, because he has never been a seeker for office.

John Alvin Price, who has been connected with the American Rolling mill at Middletown for some years, has, during the period of his location here, formed a wide acquaintance and established himself as a dependable citizen. He was born at Youngstown, Ohio, October 3, 1880, a son of John F. and Margaret (Price) Price, natives of Wales. John F. Price, in young manhood, served ten years on an English ocean vessel, and then emigrated to the United States and took up his residence at Youngstown, Ohio, where he was connected with the mines. He was married there to Margaret Price, and they became the parents of eleven children: Sarah, deceased; Edward, a resident of Warren, Ohio; William, deceased; Esther, now Mrs. Frank Sweaney, of New Philadelphia, Ohio; John Alvin, of this notice; Emily, now Mrs. William Byron, of Flushing, Ohio; Albert and Daniel, residents of Canton; Emory, of Flushing; Miss Margaret, of Akron; and a daughter who died in infancy. The mother of these children died June 18, 1910, but the father still survives and is a resident of Canton. John Alvin Price received his education in the public schools of Youngstown and there began his career as a worker in the mills, entering the American Rolling mill in 1902. Seeing the opportunity to better his condition, in December, 1911, he came to Middletown, and ever since has been associated with the American Rolling mills, where he holds a responsible position and is accounted one of the great industry's reliable and industrious employees. Since coming to Middletown Mr. Price has purchased a handsome home on Harrison avenue, which is noted for its hospitality. September 30, 1903, Mr. Price was united in marriage with Susan B., the daughter of John Thomas and Louise Ellen (Bice) Walcutt, of Dresden, Ohio, where she received her educa-

tion, and to this union there has been born one son, John, who is attending the public schools of Middletown. This son is possessed of a beautiful baritone voice. Mr. Walcutt, at the start of the Civil war, enlisted with two brothers, in Company D, Twelfth Ohio Cavalry, and fought throughout the struggle, in which one of his brothers was killed. He survived the war, lived to advanced years, and passed away May 18, 1910. Mrs. Price is fond of society and takes great interest in lodge work, being past worthy matron of the Eastern Star at Middletown. She is also active in the work of the Broadway Methodist Episcopal church, of which her husband is also a member. Her only sister, Mrs. Charles A. Green, is a resident of Canton. Mr. Price is a Republican, but liberal in his views. He is prominent fraternally, being a thirty-second degree Mason and a member of the Eagles.

Ferdinand D. Pugh. Stock breeding and farming interests in Butler county have a progressive advocate and representative in Ferdinand D. Pugh, who has been a lifelong resident and operator in Wayne township and is now the owner of a valuable and well-improved property. Mr. Pugh was born in Wayne township, October 24, 1862, a son of John and Anna B. (Phares) Pugh. The paternal grandfather of Ferdinand D. Pugh, and the first of the family to locate in Ohio, was John Pugh, of Welsh descent, and a native of Pennsylvania. He married a Miss Jones, and about the year 1819 made the difficult journey into Butler county, at that time almost a total wilderness, with wild game in abundance. As there was a salt lick on Mr. Pugh's property it was not unusual for there to be venison on the family table, and frequently a deer attracted by the lick fell to the unerring aim of this pioneer. While Mr. Pugh had been a wagon maker in his earlier years, he easily adapted himself to his new surroundings, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and through his industry and perseverance was able to clear and cultivate a great deal of his land, both he and his wife rounding out their long and useful lives on the farm which had been reclaimed by them from the wilderness. They were the parents of the following children: Keziah Ann, Betsy, John, Isaac, William, Riley and Alexander. John Pugh the younger, father of Ferdinand D. Pugh, was born in the log cabin on the old homestead, in the midst of pioneer surroundings, and grew up amid primitive conditions, his education being secured in the log cabin district school. After leaving the parental roof he went to Preble county, where he lived for some years, subsequently to Germantown, then returned to Wayne township, later lived at Hamilton and in Hanover township, and finally located at Seven Mile, where his death occurred in August, 1912. He was a man of versatile talents, able either to gain a good livelihood by farming or in various business ventures, and as a result was able to accumulate a competence and become one of the well-to-do men of his community. He was looked upon as a substantial citizen and his integrity was a factor in securing his election as township trustee two terms and member of the school board. Politically he supported Republican principles, while his religious faith inclined toward the Quaker belief. He and his wife were the

parents of three children: Luella, deceased, who married (first) Alfred McGraff and (second) Edward McGraff; Ferdinand D., of this review; and Eva, who married Joe Phares, of Wayne township. Ferdinand D. Pugh was reared on the home farm, attended the public schools, and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. He was united with Susie Phares, born in Wayne township, a daughter of William C. and Elizabeth Phares, the former born in Wayne township, a farmer by vocation and an honored veteran of the Civil war. Mrs. Phares was born at Cincinnati. The parents of William C. Phares were William and Caroline (Imlay) Phares of New Jersey, who passed their lives in Wayne township as farmers, their other children being: J. R. Winfield Scott, Samuel A., George A., Harriet and Mary. William C. and Elizabeth Phares had two children: Joseph, a resident of Wayne township; and Susie, who became Mrs. Pugh. Mr. and Mrs. Pugh have three daughters: Jessie, who married Emil R. Salisbury, a grocer and produce dealer of Beverly, Wash., and has one child, Gene; Maude, who went to Beverly, Wash., alone as a pioneer teacher for three years, and took the census of her county, riding the 200 square miles of territory on a cow pony, married John Masterson, of Beverly, and has a son, Pat; and Irene, the wife of John Reynolds, of Seven Mile. Mr. Pugh's daughters were given good educational advantages, attending the public schools of Jacksonboro and Oxford. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Pugh located on the old home place, where they have always lived, Mr. Pugh having purchased 180 acres of land. This property is located in section 17, Wayne township, on the old Trace road, built by Anthony Wayne, and is highly improved, with buildings both attractive and substantial. Mr. Pugh carries on farming in a general way, but devotes himself more particularly to raising mixed stock and stock dealing, a field in which he has been very successful. His business transactions have been conducted in a manner warranting his reputation as a man of integrity, and his good citizenship has been evidenced in a number of ways. As a friend of education he has served as a member of the school board. His political sympathies and views make him a supporter of the Republican party. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pugh are widely and favorably known in their county, where both possess a number of warm friends.

John D. Pults. By reason of his large success, his unblemished character, his just and liberal life, and the universal esteem which he enjoys, John D. Pults might, without invidious distinction, be called one of the most honored and prominent citizens of College Corner. For twenty-eight years he has been identified with the Farmers State bank, of which institution he is now cashier, and during his long career has so conducted his activities as to gain and hold the confidence of his associates and the public in general. Mr. Pults was born July 6, 1869, in Lawrence county, Ohio, a son of Charles G. Pults (originally spelled Pulz). The father was born in Germany, and was still a youth when, in 1850, he emigrated to the United States and settled at Cincinnati. Later he went to Ironton, Ohio, where he was manager of the Mount Vernon furnace for several

years, going thence to Billingsville, Ind., and later locating at College Corner, where his death occurred in 1890. He was a member of the Lutheran church, as was also his wife, who survived him a long time, dying in 1908. Their children were: William L., born July 27, 1860; Charles, deceased; Emily Belle, bookkeeper in the Farmers State bank; and John D. William L. Pults was educated in the public schools, in Miami university, and at Buffalo, N. Y., and then returned to College Corner, where he became a clerk in the store of Bake & Ridenour. Later he was made cashier of the Farmers State bank, a position which he held until his death, December 21, 1918, when he passed away in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. He married Leona B. Kingery, and they became the parents of two sons: Watson R., who is in the bank with his uncle; and Cecil C., with the Oxford Milling company. John D. Pults was educated in the home schools and as a young man was identified with drug and hardware enterprises at College Corner until 1891, when he was made assistant cashier of the Farmers State bank of College Corner. For more than twenty-seven years he occupied that position, and at the death of his brother, in December, 1918, took the latter's place as cashier of the institution. A short history of this institution may be apropos in this connection. Prior to the year 1885, the handling of the funds for the shipping interests of the village of College Corner was done principally by a mercantile firm, but in the latter part of the year mentioned, the late John Howell, and O. M. Bake, organized a private institution known as the Corner bank, with the former as president and the latter as cashier. In 1888, W. L. Pults was made assistant cashier and in the following year succeeded as cashier Mr. Bake. In March, 1893, the Corner bank was succeeded by the Farmers bank, with $10,000 paid up capital, John Howell, H. L. Bake, and W. L. Pults forming a copartnership and taking over the former institution. In October, 1895, Mr. Howell wishing to retire and the need of a larger capitalized stock being necessary, the Farmers State Bank of West College Corner, Ind., was incorporated under the laws of the state of Indiana which at that time had superior banking laws to those of Ohio. The Farmers bank was absorbed by the new Farmers State bank and a new location was selected just across the state line, and the original $25,000 capital was increased to $35,000 in 1900 and to $50,000 in 1915, with a surplus of $71,000. The officers at that time were: H. L. Bake, president; W. L. Pults, cashier; J. D. Pults, assistant cashier; W. R. Hays, vice president. The number of shareholders had increased from about seventeen to about forty at that time and in 1915 to fifty-seven, and the continued growth of the institution as a state bank has been consistent since its organization. The accumulated surplus had reached $92,000 in 1915, and the deposits have grown to over $600,000. A striking growth such as this, is certainly significant and indicative of broad, careful management in carrying forward a policy based on sound, conservative banking principles, with a service so generous in its every detail that each individual patron feels that his every financial need, looking toward increased prosperity, is constantly safeguarded by the bank. These qualities, com-

RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH H. PYLE, MIDDLETOWN

bined with security and strength evidenced by ample capital and surplus, are factors in the making for the success attained. The present officials of the bank are: H. L. Bake, president; Aaron Gardner, vice-president; J. D. Pults, cashier; and W. R. Pults, assistant cashier. Mr. Pults, during his long connection with this institution, has won and merited the entire confidence of his associates, as well as of the bank's patrons, and has become known as a thoroughly capable financier. He has other large interests at College Corner and in the surrounding territory, and is an extensive dealer in real estate and farm property. As a citizen he has capably discharged the duties connected with positions of civic importance, and in addition to serving as mayor of College Corner has been an active, helpful and constructive worker in the cause of education. He votes the Republican ticket, has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America for many years, and he and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Pults married Miss Jessie Harpwood, of Butler county, this state, and they are the parents of four children: Gladys J., Emily Gertrude, Harley Harpwood and John Dean.

Joseph H. Pyle is generally regarded as one of the steady and reliable employees of the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown, with which concern he has been connected in the capacity of heater since 1911. He is one of the men who has made his own way in the world and has relied upon his own initiative and resource to gain his desires and ambitions, and today is in comfortable circumstances due to his persevering industry. Mr. Pyle was born at Martin's Ferry, Ohio, May 28, 1869, a son of John Bone and Rachael Isabel (Harris) Pyle. His father, a native of England, was about ten years of age when brought by his parents to the United States, the family settling first in Mt. Pleasant, Ohio. From that state he enlisted for service during the Civil war and continued to bear arms in defense of the Union until the cessation of hostilities between the forces of the North and South. He is still living, in hale old age, at Bridgeport, Ohio, where his wife died May 3, 1919, aged eighty-one years. They were the parents of three sons, Joseph, Hugh and Robert, and one daughter, Nettie, who is the wife of James Beck, all the children except Joseph being residents of Bridgeport. Mr. Pyle's uncle, the Rev. H. D. Fischer, went to Kansas during frontier days and built a church of the Methodist faith. He was a courageous and eloquent minister of the gospel and was also possessed of no mean literary abilities, being the author of "The Gun and the Gospel," a work which possessed a strong appeal and which met with the approval of both press and public. Joseph Pyle, who is familiarly known as Joe to his acquaintances, was given a public school education at Martin's Ferry, and early began to master his trade. This he followed as an apprentice and journeyman, and visited various cities until September 21, 1911, when he came from Martin's Ferry, Ohio, to Middletown, and here entered the employ of the American Rolling Mill company, where his present position is that of a heater. As before noted, he has gained the confidence of his company and through his energy and good management has

been able to accumulate some means, a part of which is represented in his ownership of a beautiful home on North street, which he erected in November, 1918. He and Mrs. Pyle are consistent members of the Welsh Congregational church, are interested in its work, and contribute to its movements. He belongs to the local lodges of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose and has numerous friendships therein. In regard to his political adherence, he maintains a liberal stand and is usually found voting for principle rather than party. November 10, 1887, at Bridgeport, Ohio, Mr. Pyle was united in marriage with Hannah Davis, who was born March 19, 1874, at Rhymney, Wales, a daughter of Thomas O. Davis, a resident of Bridgeport and a native of Wales. Mrs. Davis died February 11, 1918, leaving five children: Mrs. Pyle; Oliver, a resident of Middletown; John and Windsor; residents of Follansbee, W. Va.; and Annie, who died July 9, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Pyle have had four children: Edna, Ralph and Edwin, who reside with their parents; and Edgar, who died when ten days old.

Richard S. Radcliffe. Few of the firms which have been in existence at Hamilton for more than a quarter of a century have a better reputation or standing than that enjoyed by Radcliffe Brothers, druggists. Founded in 1893 this concern has steadily maintained a business policy of standard goods, straightforward dealings, excellent service and high business principles that has served to place the company firmly in public confidence and to stamp its name indelibly upon the public mind as one connected with honorable commercial transactions. Richard S. Radcliffe, the active director of this concern, was born at Arlington, Ala., August 3, 1874, a son of Leonard and Elizabeth Radcliffe, the latter from Virginia and the former from Charleston, S. C., and a cotton raiser and commission merchant of Arlington, Ala., where both died. Mr. Radcliffe was a Mason and he and his wife were the parents of two children: W. J., a resident of Rose Hill Avondale, Cincinnati, and president of the E. A. Kinsey company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who is married and has two children; and Richard S. Richard S. Radcliffe was educated in the public schools of Arlington, Ala., and mastered the profession of pharmacy by studying nights. He was not yet nineteen years of age when he first embarked in the drug business, June 6, 1893, on the corner of Third and Dayton streets, Hamilton, with his brother, W. J. Radcliffe, as an inactive partner, although the firm was known as Radcliffe Brothers. This store was sold in 1911, and the business, now grown to huge proportions under the able management of Mr. Radcliffe, was moved to the building owned by Mrs. Katie Minor, on Second and High streets, which was later torn down to permit of the erection of the Rentschler building, in which Radcliffe Brothers took larger quarters. The flood of 1913 took heavy toll from this business, the firm sustaining a loss of $26,000, but with characteristic energy and enterprse Mr. Radcliffe resumed operations as soon as the flood had receded, and has since carried on his business on even a larger scale than before. His stock is one of the most complete, comprehensive and modern in the state, and the rating of the concern is one that makes its name respected all over the country. In business

circles of Hamliton, Mr. Radcliffe is universally accounted a man of shrewd business ability, who thoroughly understands every phase and detail of his calling, and whose personal character is so high as to be beyond question. He is a member of the Masons, Elks and Knights of Pythias, and holds membership in the Hamilton club and the Butler County Country club. In 1903, Mr. Radcliffe went to Toronto, Canada, where he was united in marriage with Edith C. Keighley, who was born and reared in that Canadian metropolis, and both of whose parents are deceased, and to this union there have been born two children: Betty, born in 1907, and George, born in 1909, both attending the graded schools of Hamilton.

John Rahmes, retired farmer of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, was born in Bavaria, Germany, October 19, 1830, a son of Sextus and Magdalena Rahmes. The parents were born in Bavaria, and lived and died there. They had ten children, five of whom came to America: John, subject of this sketch; George, Veit G., Mary and Abelena. John, our subject, was educated in the schools of his native land, and is self-taught in English. In 1853, accompanied by a sister, he came to the United States and located near Cumminsville, Ohio, where he cut cordwood and later hired out at a wage of $125 per year. Still later, he came to Fairfield township and cut cordwood for William Hunter, afterward worked for the Lindner family, and in the spring of 1855, his parents having died, he paid a visit to his old home in Germany. The visit was prolonged just one year, and on his return in the spring of 1856, he was accompanied by his sister, two brothers and Barbara Fichter, who afterwards became his wife. She was born in September, 1830, and died in 1900. Soon after the return from Germany, Mr. Rahmes located in Fairfield township and rented land in Mill Creek valley on which he remained until 1864, when he purchased the farm on which he now lives. This was then known as the Huston land, and the tract he bought contained 102 acres. A small cabin and stable stood on the land, but they were in bad condition and unfit for use. He built the present home, made many improvements on the place and very materially increased its value. Mr. and Mrs. Rahmes had eight children: Mary, Mrs. Walter Horning, who own the Rahmes homestead; John, retired farmer, lives in Seven Mile, Ohio, married Mary Ratz; Annie, Mrs. Ed. Swartz, deceased; George, a farmer of Hamilton county, Ohio, married Mary Springer; Vite, a farmer of Hamilton, Ohio, married Jessie Margut; Eva, widow of Henry Burke, of Hamilton; Barbara, Mrs. Wm. Rieser, of Symmes Corners, Ohio; Fred, retired farmer, Hamilton; Paulina, widow of Lincoln Jones, of Seven Mile, Ohio. Mr. Rahmes has had a remarkably successful career, but that success was attained only through the hardest kind of labor and deprivations, and he has well earned the comfort and enjoyment of his old age. He is remarkably well-preserved, possesses an excellent memory, and his reminiscences of the pioneer days are most interesting. The only public position ever held by Mr. Rahmes was that of school director. He is a member of Emanuel Lutheran church, at Hamilton, and politically is a Democrat.

Paul W. Redlin. Whatever success Paul W. Redlin has

achieved in life—and it is considerable—is due entirely to his own well directed efforts. In his youth he started out to make his own way in the world, unaided, and by resolute purpose, indefatigable industry and sound judgment has steadily worked his way upward to a position of independence. In the capacity of manager of the Elite bakery, at Hamilton, he is the directing head of an important business asset of the city, and his ability has done much to bring it to its present high plane. Mr. Redlin was born at Toledo, Ohio, October 5, 1877, a son of Frederick and Johanna Redlin, natives of Germany who came to the United States as children. The mother is now deceased, but the father survives and resides at Toledo. There are four children in the family: Fred, superintendent of the Western Manufacturing company, at Toledo, married and the father of one child; Louise, the wife of Frank Fletcher of Toledo; Ida, the wife of Otto Klink, engaged in the printing business in that city; and Paul W. Paul W. Redlin was educated in the graded schools of Toledo and entered upon his career at the butcher trade. His first personal venture was as a member of the meat market firm of Eckert & Redlin, at Toledo, this association continuing for two and one-half years. After disposing of his interests in this field of endeavor, Mr. Redlin turned his attention to the baker's trade, at which he worked at Toledo for various concerns until 1895, the year in which he came to Hamilton. Here he became identified with the Elite bakery, and soon thereafter purchased stock and was made assistant manager. This post he retained until 1913, in which year he succeeded Mr. Carpenter in the management of the business, the policy of which he has since directed in a capable manner. He is a large stockholder in the concern, which is a member of the Retail Merchants' Association of Hamilton and of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. As a business man Mr. Redlin is held in high esteem by his associates, and his known integrity and personal qualities have gained him the confidence and friendship of those with whom he has been associated. Mr. Redlin married Miss Carrie Newmeister, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, whose father was the proprietor of the leading bakery establishment at Upper Sandusky. Mr. and Mrs. Redlin have five children: David, aged sixteen years; Edward, aged fourteen; Paul, aged eleven; Roy, aged ten; and Ruth, aged seven; all attending the graded schools. The family belongs to the German Methodist Episcopal church.

Thomas E. Reed, M. D. Practically the entire professional life of Dr. Thomas E. Reed has been passed at Middletown, where for more than forty years he has ministered to the sick, given instruction to young men in preparation for the practice of medicine, written and published works of a professional character, and enjoyed great popularity as a general and family practitioner. Deliberately adopting the homeopathic system, from observation of its effect among the sick and conviction of its superiority as a scientific method of therapeutics, he has brought to its practice scholastic training, innate soundness and accuracy of judgment, and a cheerful disposition, and has long maintained a leading place among the

progressive disciples of Hahnemann in the state of his birth. Doctor Reed was born in October, 1844, on a farm in Dicks Creek valley, four miles south of Middletown, in Lemon township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of William and Margaret (Sigerson) Reed, and is of Scotch-Irish extraction. His grandparents were pioneers, and his ancestors on his father's side came from Ireland, and on his mother's side from Scotland. Both parents were born on Butler county farms, attended the same church, had good common school educations and always lived in the same county. They reared to maturity seven sons and three daughters, and the father lived to be eighty-six years of age, the mother passing away at the age of seventy-seven. Thomas E. Reed, after district school, attended an academy at Monroe, Ohio, for two years, and this was followed by private tutelage under Professor Curran for one winter. He then spent one year at Oxford (Ohio) university, and these last two years were devoted to studies selected with a view of medicine for a profession. This made the course at Oxford university irregular, hence no degree was taken. A three-year course in medicine was then commenced with Dr. W. D. Linn of Middletown as preceptor, and Doctor Reed's first course of lectures was attended at the Cleveland (Ohio) Homeopathic Medical college and the second at the Hahnemann Medical college of Philadelphia, Pa., where he graduated in the spring of 1872. Soon after graduation a temporary partnership was formed with Dr. S. C. Whiting, at Vincennes, Ind., where two or three years were devoted to active practice and valuable experience with an elder man, before Doctor Reed located permanently at Middletown, his present home. While a student at Philadelphia, Doctor Reed was attracted by the following remark of Professor Hering in his private class: "On the coast, as a rule, children are born as the tide advances, and deaths are more likely to occur as it recedes." This was all the Professor said about it, but it was enough to set young Reed to thinking, and after locating in Ohio, he reasoned thus. "If this be true on the coast, it is also true inland, for law is the same everywhere." From this time on, as his obstetrical practice grew, a system of investigation began and was followed up closely during his whole career of over forty-five years of obstetrical work. The tide cycle, as it is called, is twelve hours long, and therefore the shortest cycle of time; and this, studied in connection with the daily, weekly and monthly cycles of time, makes one of the most valuable and interesting adjuncts a physician can possess in the practice of his profession. After about twenty years, when Doctor Reed had proven the truth and value of the law of cycles, in births, deaths, disease, etc., he conceived the idea that perhaps the sex had its origin in the same law and began a series of investigations along that line, proving to his own satisfaction that this also was true. This proved quite a discovery, when it is considered that scientists have been striving ever since the days of Hippocrates to find what determines sex; and Burdock is said to have compiled a list of over 500 works on the subject of sex determination, but all were simply theories and worthless, while Doctor Reed's theory uncovers a law, and there

must be a law to succeed. While his investigations have been mainly with the human family, he finds it also true with the lower animals. Doctor Reed at first thought that twins, being often one of each sex, would disprove what he had in mind, but this led to investigations along that line, and, discovering twins to be of two classes, it only further helped to prove and establish the law dominating sex. In 1898 the Doctor wrote a small book, entitled "Cyclic Law," to secure priority of his investigations and discoveries, and published it himself. Following this came a number of Journal articles, including a series of articles in the New York Medical Times, called "The Sex-Cycle of the Germ Plasm." Reprints of these were put in pamphlet form and about 500 of them sent to the most prominent scientists and physicians all over the world, from whom came no adverse criticisms. Then, of more recent date, a book of over 300 pages was brought out especially for scientists and physicians, entitled "Sex, Its Origin and Determination," and published by Rebman Company, New York. The press received this latter work with more than ordinary enthusiasm. The Western Medical Review said of it: "An alluring hypothesis from which sooner or later the solution of the formation of sex will surely spring into fact." When a student at Philadelphia, Doctor Reed was elected by the members of the Institute, quaesitor to the chair of clinical medicine, and came under the influence of Professor Hering, who was himself a student of the great Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of the homeopathic school of medicine. These circumstances stimulated an intense interest in materia medica and clinical medicine, in the young physician, which in after years he never lost and which resulted in the unique success he enjoys as a skillful physician. It has been his attainments in this field that has brought him the success he enjoys and the respect and affection of the people of his community. For forty years he has responded cheerfully and readily to the demands of his profession, ever willing to learn and always advancing in professional skill. He has always been fond of quoting the cogent words of his master in medicines, Hahnemann, who said that "he who pretends to treat the sick, and in doing so neglects to equip himself in all possible knowledge and skill, is guilty of no less than a crime." He is well grounded in the principles dominating his profession. Doctor Reed is a member of the International Hahnemannian association, and a senior member of the American Institute of Homeopathy, and has been a consistent and constant advocate of the Homeopathic school of medical practice, it being the only school that can boast of a law, and it is this fact that he attributes the success he has attained in his chosen field. A number of years ago, a Chicago pharmacy offered a prize for the best essay on the principles of Homeopathy, and among forty-seven contestants the Doctor took first prize of $150. Of late years Doctor Reed has given up the more arduous phases of medical practice and now confines himself more to office prescribing and the treatment of chronic diseases. Especially is he interested in the medical treatment of certain diseases, ordinarly supposed to be amenable only to the knife of the surgeon, such as gall-stone, gravel,

appendicitis, mastoid diseases, glandular inflammations, etc. Here he enjoys unique distinction and patients come to him from many miles distant. But while he had partially retired from active practice, during the recent 1918-19 influenza epidemic, he gladly assumed his share of the great burden it cast upon the shoulders of the medical and nursing professions and responded to the many calls for help, doing as much work as many of the younger men of the profession, and with entire success. The Doctor denounces in toto the recent methods of treating influenza and other acute diseases by the employment of ice bags and other cold applications and exposing the patients to wide open doors and windows, placing them out on porches, or in freezing draughts. All know, assumes the Doctor, that by a law of physics, cold contracts and heat expands, and when the lungs are congested and the patients exposed to cold, the tiny bronchioles contract and the patients are choked in their own secretion. This was the method practiced during the recent epidemic and all are familiar with the terrible losses in the hospitals, cantonments and private homes. The Doctor questions if there is any physician who can explain upon what scientific basis this is practiced. The Doctor further asserts that fresh air, at all times essential, should in these cases be warm air. In short, every acute disease, he firmly contends, demands heat, warm air, hot applications, hot bathing to reduce fever, etc., to assist scientific medication in curing them. Doctor Reed was brought up a Presbyterian, and united with a branch of that denomination when quite young, hardly realizing its creed but feeling that his parents must be right. When about forty years of age, serious convictions led him to an earnest study of the Bible. This in time changed his whole life, for, as he has said, "if we believe the Bible is of divine origin, we are very unwise if we do not practice its teachings." By his study of the Bible he soon became convinced that the Nominal church is composed of man-made sects and shall "be rooted up," or destroyed, and that "they be blind leaders of the blind," (Matt. 15:13, 14), and God's children are called out from among them, (Rev. 18:4), as well as out from the world. Jehovah's true disciples though in, "are not of the world." (John 17:16.) They are told to "come out from among them, and be ye separate." (2 Cor. 6:17.) These and other similar texts led him out of the sects and from the things of the world, and this is why he takes no part in politics or organizations of any kind. God's true church, the Doctor says, the Bible teaches, is a spiritual organization that originated on the day of Pentecost. They are the "Ecclesia of the first born," whose names are written in the "Lamb's book of life." They are the "few" class in the "narrow" way, or, as the Psalmist says, "thy hidden ones," but from which no one is barred, for anyone can come and take of "the water of life freely;" but only God knows His own. The Doctor believes that the important thing to insure one's salvation is to keep the Ten Commandments, which Solomon says is "the whole duty of man." This includes God's Holy Seventh Day Sabbath. He says that we should believe and obey what the Bible teaches, rather than "Science falsely so-called," as says Paul.

The Doctor, therefore, believes the cosmogony of the Bible rather than the whirling, flying globe theory of philosophers, for which he is convinced there is not a single proof. Doctor Reed has been an earnest Bible student for many years, upon which he wrote a book, entitled "Gleanings New and Old, Garnered from the Word of God," over twenty years ago, and about 3,000 of these have gone out over the English-speaking world. Besides this, he has written numerous articles for the religious press, and as counseled by the Apostle Peter he is "ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you, with meekness and reverence." Until past middle life Doctor Reed affiliated with the Republican party, but for more than twenty years has had no interest in political affairs whatever. He has never held nor accepted any office of any degree. When a young man he joined the Masonic and Royal Arcanum orders, but soon left them, for reasons stated before. In the spring of 1864, at the age of nineteen years, he enlisted in Company G, 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Tom Moore. The regiment was sent to West Virginia, at the source of the Big Kanawha river, but after being in the service a little more than four months, in which it took part in no special engagements, was ordered home and mustered out. One year after locating at Middletown, Doctor Reed married Annie, eldest daughter of Judge L. D. Doty. Her mother being Lydia Vail, made Mrs. Reed the great-grand daughter of Daniel Doty and Steven Vail, the two men who first settled and laid out the city, in about the year 1800. After she was through with the town school, she attended a seminary near her home, and later Thane Miller's seminary on Mount Auburn. To this union there were born two children: Ada, who died at the age of three years; and Ralph Wallace, who is now a practising nerve and mental specialist at Cincinnati. When Ralph was about three years old, or in November, 1882, his mother died, and in June, 1891, Doctor Reed was married a second time, being united with Miss Frances A. Brown, of a well-known family of Nova Scotia, Canada, who is still his companion. Her parents, John and Augusta Brown, were born in Canada, of Scotch extraction, and Mrs. Reed's education was acquired in private schools.

William S. Reed, M. D. Gilbert Reed was the first of the noted Reed family to cross the Alleghanies and carry the standard of the family into the great west. His father was a revolutionary soldier, and another of the same family, George Malsbury Reed, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Gilbert Reed settled at Franklin, in Warren county, and here he married Catherine (Cummings) Stockton, daughter of John Noble Stockton and Jane (Van Schaick) Stockton. John Noble Stockton was a son of the Rev. Philip Stockton, an Episcopalian minister, who descended from a Richard Stockton, of Princeton, N. J. A grandson of Richard Stockton, Judge John Stockton, donated the land for the occupancy of Princeton university, and was in a measure responsible for the esablishment of this seat of learning. A brother of the Rev. Philip Stockton, was also a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Another son of the Rev. Philip Stockton, Lucius Witham Stockton, and a Mr. Stipes organized the National Stage company, operating stages in the early days, prior to the construction of the National highway, from Baltimore, Md., Columbus, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Ind. At one time this company had 2,000 stage coaches in operation between these cities. Jane Van Schaick, who married John Noble Stockton, was of Dutch ancestry of Albany, N. Y., and descended from Seigfreid Schaick, who was with Capt. Henry Hudson when he made the memorable trip on the Half Moon up the river which bears his name. Seigfreid Schaick settled in New York state, and one of his descendants, Goosey Van Schaick, became a colonel in the Revolutionary war. Gilbert Malsbury Reed, after his marriage to Catherine (Cummings) Stockton, became a farmer near Franklin, Ohio, and to him and his wife were born: John Reed, Richard Cummings Stockon Reed, Gault Redding Reed, Lucius William Reed, Ann Stockton Reed, Lucius Nelson Reed and Lucius Witham Reed, II. Richard Cummings Stockton Reed, father of our subject, received his education at home; in a private academy at Philipsburg, Ohio; Starling Medical college of Columbus, Ohio, and Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio. He has also taught school near Point Union, and at West Chester and Twenty-mile stand. He married, first, Nancy Clark, of Somerville, Ohio, daughter of John Clark, who was a member of the Ohio legislature from Butler county. To Richard Cummings Stockton Reed and Nancy (Clark) Reed were born John Gilbert Reed, in 1853, and Charles Alfred Lee Reed, in 1856. John Gilbert Reed was educated in the National Normal School, Lebanon, Ohio, and Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, and after graduation, practiced his profession in Elmwood, Ohio, and Cincinnati. Charles Alfred Lee Reed graduated from the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, and in 1880, married Irene Daugherty, daughter of John G. Daugherty and Susan (Melrose) Daugherty, of Jersey county, Ill. To Charles Alfred Lee Reed and Irene (Daugherty) Reed were born Winnifred Van Schaick Reed and Charles Lawson Reed. Charles Lawson Reed married Pauline Foster, and to this union two children have been born: Pauline and Lawson. Charles Lawson Reed was educated in private schools in Cincinnati, Culver Military academy and Yale university. In the World war he was Captain of the 322d Field Artillery, 83d Division—was in the memorable engagement at Chateau Thierry, saw other active service in Argonne and was with the Army of Occupation at Coblenz. Winnifred Van Schaick Reed married Roger Culver Tredwell, of the U. S. Consular service in Yokohama, Mukden, Dresden, London, Rome, Milan, St. Petersburg, and for six months was in Turkestan during the Bolshevik disturbances. Dr. Charles Alfred Lee Reed is a noted surgeon and practices in Cincinnati and elsewhere. He is considered one of the best and most skillful surgeons, and calls are made for his services from every part of the country. During the war, he served as Major in the Medical Corps, U. S. A., and was on the General Army staff. His services were of a high order especially in the organization of the Medical Corps of the U. S. Army. Richard Stockton Reed was

married, secondly, to Susan (Valentine) McClellan, widow of Carey McClellan. To this second union were born Horace Greeley Reed, Kate Luella Reed and William Stockton Reed, the immediate subject of this sketch. Horace Greeley Reed was educated in the public schools of Stockton, and the private schools of College Hill, Ohio. He married Elizabeth Tellison, and from this union resulted three children: Richard Cummings Stockton Reed, Anna Reed and Stella Reed, who married John Ripple and has one child. Kate Luella Reed married Frank Elliott and had three children: Charles Alfred Lee Elliott, Ruth Elliott, Harriet Elliott. Ruth Elliott married Gilbert Kinsey, of Los Angeles, and has three children. Charles Alfred Lee Elliott married Anna Bell and has two children. Harriet married Benjamin Evanette, now deceased; has one child, Benjamin. Dr. William S. Reed, the immediate subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools and in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery. After his graduation from this institution, he established himself at Stockton, Ohio, where he still continues, receiving a splendid practice from the citizens of Stockton and vicinity for miles surrounding. In 1887, he married Luana Field, daughter of Mason and Minerva (Chappelier) Field, of Butler county. To Dr. Reed and wife were born Hazel Van Brough Reed, Reginald G. Reed, Catherine Reed, Stockton Reed. Mrs. Reed died in Stockton, Ohio. Of the children, Hazel is married to Jefferson Hamilton, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Dr. Reed is very popular with the people with whom his lot in life has been cast. One of the pioneers, and coming in contact with so many persons, friendships have been made that will be lasting even as time itself. Of intensely patriotic ancestry, he was of course, very active in behalf of the measures for which the Government requested support during the war. As to politics, the Doctor is a Democrat. He holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Elks and Moose lodges.

Fred Reichel. A large percentage of the farmers of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, is of German parentage and they have demonstrated conclusively that the estimable distinction attained by the Germans for thoroughness in agricultural matters has been well earned. Not only are the agriculturists of German extraction who have won such a warm place in the hearts of all progressive citizens of Butler county highly regarded because of their knowledge of the scientific phases of farming, but they are also held in the highest esteem on account of the fact that during the recent World war they exerted themselves to the utmost in all movements promoted to further the cause of the Allies. The loyalty of these men and their families was such as to evoke the admiration of all liberty-loving persons and the time, labor and money which they contributed to make the Liberty loans and other war activities a success totaled quite an item. Among those who took an active part in the war activities was Fred Reichel of Ross township, who made his influence among his neighbors a decided factor in the success of the various war movements. He showed at all times that he had his heart and soul in the work and no undertaking in connection with the war allotted to him was too big for him to assume and carry to

successful conclusion. The result of his fruitful activities was that he became more firmly entrenched than ever in the affections of his neighbors. Born in Hamilton county, Ohio, July 16, 1860, he was one of the family of John and Margaret (Hahn) Reichel, two of the children having died in infancy. In addition to Fred, the other children were: Elizabeth, Sophia, Kattie, John, Margaret, William and Amelia. The parents were born in Germany and came separately to the United States, each settling in Hamilton county, Ohio, before marriage. The father died there, while his widow is at present residing in Collinsville, Ohio. Fred Reichel was educated in the public schools and took up farming with his father. In 1885 he married Miss Caroline Bachman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Bachman, who lived near Lehigh, Ohio. The latter couple had seven children, of whom five are living: Jacob, Mrs. Mary Wynn, Mrs. Fred Reichel, Amelia and George. After their marriage Fred Reichel and wife settled on a farm in Lehigh, Ohio. They moved to the present farm in Ross township in 1899 and after operating it with success Mr. Reichel purchased the property. It is known as the old James Whipple farm, consisting of 137½ acres and was previously known as the Knox place. This property has been improved considerably within the last few years and the annual crop yield is most encouraging. All modern facilities have been installed and the equipment is up to date in every particular. In addition to a general farming business, the raising of hogs, cattle and horses has been made an important adjunct. Six children have been born to this couple: Emma, who married Joseph Leslie and is the mother of two children; Edna and Ruth; Mary, who married Edward Dittman, and is the mother of four children; Helen, Howard, Elmer and Hilda; Ernest, Frederick J., Lillian and Ruth. Fred Reichel has been active in the politics of Ross township, having served as school director and also as assessor. He is identified with the Democratic party. He is a communicant of St. John's Evangelical church.

Jacob Reister, freight agent at Hamilton, Ohio, for the B. & O., and C. I. & W. railways, was born in Hamilton, Ohio, May 2, 1867. He is the son of Jacob and Catherine Reister. Jacob Reister, sr., came to Hamilton when a young man and followed his trade of cabinet making. Later he engaged in the retail coal business and followed that for twenty-five years. He then retired and lived in Hamilton until his death. He was the father of five children. The subject of this sketch received his education in Hamilton and after leaving school he worked for his father a short time and then became connected with the C. H. & D. railway as clerk. After several years of faithful service he was promoted to chief clerk and later was appointed agent at Ivorydale, Ohio, where he remained for five years. Again faithful service received its reward and in October, 1907, he was appointed freight agent for Hamilton for the above mentioned road. He was married to Sarah Hays, and to them two children were born: Fred and Evelyn.

John W. Reynolds, manager of the Bell Telephone company at Hamilton, Ohio, has occupied a prominent place in business circles of various parts of the country for a number of years. Not alone

by native talent and important accomplishments has he been prominent, but also by inheritance of qualities which raised his ancestry far above the level of the middle class. His relatives have figured largely in the history of this country, and his ancestors have all been landholders and cultivated people of gentle birth. His paternal grandfather, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, married Rachel Johnston, daughter of John Johnston, and brother of Stephen Johnston, who was lieutenant-commander of the vessel that opened the ports of Japan to the world. John Johnston came to Ohio in 1792 with the army of Gen. Anthony Wayne, and settled at Upper Piqua, Ohio, as Indian commissioner. In the Civil war, Mr. Reynolds had eleven relatives in the Army of the Cumberland who became commissioned officers, and of these his father, James K. Reynolds, was the youngest. John W. Reynolds was born May 21, 1879, at Covington, Ky., a son of James K. and Laura B. (Weakley) Reynolds, the former still living at Boston, with his son, Charles S., who is engaged in the automobile business. James K. Reynolds enrolled as a member of Company A, 6th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, June 6, 1861, at the age of eighteen years and a few days later his regiment went to West Virginia on a campaign under Brig.-Gen. J. J. Morris against General Garnett, the opposing Confederate commander who was killed at Carrick's Ford. He served with his company in its numerous movements until it reached Beverly, W. Va., where he was ordered by telegram to report to Gen. W. S. Rosecrans at Clarksburg, W. Va., where he was detailed to serve in the adjutant general's office where he remained during General Rosecrans' command of the Army of Occupation in West Virginia. While he was only a private soldier he was readily associated with the best elements of the army and treated as a commissioned officer. He refused the offer of a cadetship at West Point, as he did not care to leave the army, and later was sent to Baltimore to report to Gen. John E. Wool. However, he served at Baltimore only a short time, under Col. W. D. Whipple, chief of staff, and was later ordered to report to Gen. H. G. Wright, at Cincinnati, again in the adjutant general's office. While detailed at Cincinnati, General Rosecrans was appointed to command the Army of the Cumberland, and had Private Reynolds report to him at Nashville, where he arrived November 20, 1862. The General telegraphed Governor Todd of Ohio to commission Private Reynolds, which was accordingly done, and the young soldier became a first lieutenant on Rosecrans' staff. After the battle of Stone River, in which he participated with such distinction that he received a letter of commendation from General Rosecrans, he was appointed acting assistant adjutant general, in which position he served until General Rosecrans was relieved by Maj.-Gen. George H. Thomas. Lieutenant Reynolds' name appears on the copper tablet at the Widow Glenn House, battlefield of Chickamauga, as a member of General Rosecrans' staff. He continued on the staff of General Thomas until June, 1864, when he asked to be relieved and was mustered out of the army, June 23, as first lieutenant Company A, 6th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In West Virginia he participated in the battles of Carrick's Ford, Carnifex

Ferry, Ganley Bridge, New River, with the Army of Fremont at Cross Lanes and others, and with the Army of the Cumberland in all its battles and skirmishes until June, 1864. He was a messmate for a time of both Generals Hayes and Garfield, each afterward president of the United States, and was also familiar with Generals Alex McD. McCook, Tom Crittenden, Gordon Grainger, Hooker, Howard and Sheridan. Shortly after his marriage to Laura B. Weakley, he went to Covington, Ky., but subsequently returned to Ohio, and, locating at Cincinnati, became associated with the Standard Wagon company as secretary and treasurer. He was later mde manager of the safety and deposit department of the Merchants National bank of Cincinnati, a position which he held until his retirement from active life. He is a first cousin of John H. Patterson, president of the National Cash Register company of Dayton. James K. Reynolds married Laura B., daughter of John W. Weakley, D. D., and granddaughter of the Rev. Charles Swain, both life members of the Cincinnati Conference. She was a first cousin of Rev. H. C. Weakley, also a member of the Cincinnati Conference and founder of Christ's hospital and The Methodist Home for the Aged, College Hill, Cincinnati. Also she was a lineal descendant on her father's side of the Rev. John Robinson, Pastor of the Pilgrims, first in England, later at Amsterdam, and finally at Leyden, Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were the parents of three children: Charles Swain, engaged in the automobile business at Boston, Mass., married Alice Hubbard of Covington, Ky., who died without issue; Edward Lansdale, an electrical engineer, married Esther Payne, of Elmira, N. Y., and has one child; and John William, of this notice. John W. Reynolds attended the graded schools and later a college preparatory school at Covington, Ky., and subsequently went to Walnut Hills. On completing his education, he secured his first position, that of assistant paying teller of the Cincinnati Savings society. Subsequently he was city salesman for the Globe-Wernicke company of Cincinnati, and not long after his marriage, in 1905, to Phoebe Corbett, of Covington, Ky., went south as chief timber inspector for the Georgia Coast & Piedmont railroad, with headquarters at Darien, Ga. Later he entered the service of the Cincinnati and Suburban Bell Telephone company, at Cincinnati, and continued in the traffic department there until December, 1913, when he came to Hamilton to take charge of the offices of the Bell Telephone company. Mr. Reynolds is a Mason, and a member of the Hamilton club, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants' Association. He is an independent voter. In 1905 Mr. Reynolds married Phoebe Corbett, a scion of the ancient and distinguished family of that name of Shropshire, England, and a granddaughter of an ironmaster of the United States, of English birth. She is a grandniece of John Corbett, an eminent philanthropist, who was known as the Salt King of England. He was proprietor of the Stoke Prior Salt works, founder of the Corbett hospital at Stourbridge, a governor of the University of Wales and of the University of Birmingham, and a director in the Sharpness New Docks and Gloucester and Birmingham Navigation company. He was a member of Par-

liament for Droitwich from 1874 to 1885 and for Worcestershire from 1885 to 1892. His estate was valued at 412,972 pounds, gross, including personal realty to the net value of 399,420 pounds. Phoebe Corbett Reynolds' mother, Elizabeth Jameson Corbett, was of Scotch-Irish descent, was reared and educated in Canada. Her father, Thomas Jameson, settled in Canada and became a stock farmer and large land owner. His health failing he returned to Scotland and died there. Her mother was a daughter of John Sheldon Peters, a chain manufacturer of Wednesbury, England. Elizabeth Jameson had two brothers, John, a government surveyor in England, and James, who was a lieutenant in the English Army. He died while in the army and is buried in Brampton cemetery, London, England. Elizabeth Jameson Corbett was connected with Professor Jameson, philosopher and writer and a friend and associate of Sir David Brewster. Her great-grandfather was a Presbyterian minister who received his theological training in the University of Glasgow. After the completion of this training he opened a private academy in Ireland which proved very successful. The mother of Robert William Corbett and grandmother of Phoebe Corbett Reynolds was Phoebe Jones, a daughter of James Jones, a wealthy coal mine owner of West Bromwich, Staffordshire, England. He was also the father of Joseph Jones, the owner of the Vleck Iron and Sheet Mills at Walsall, England. He married Hannah Hathaway, whose father owned the Great Eagle Iron works at Great Bridge, England. William Jones, also a son of James Jones, came to America, settled in New York and was the Jones of the firm of Otis & Jones, elevator manufacturers of New York, N. Y. He was also a robe and hat manufacturer.

William Rigling. The name of William Rigling, president of The Rigling Realty company, has become as familiar to the present generation of Hamiltonians as a household word, being indissolubly associated in the mind of the public with a number of important enterprises which have not only added to the city's prestige, but have also placed comfortable homes within reach of the industrial classes, and have incidentally added to the projector's wealth. His biography is one which is a record of marked achievements, accomplished before their architect has reached the age when slower minds are beginning to comprehend life's possibilities. Mr. Rigling was born at Hamilton, Ohio, a son of Joseph and Rose (Holzer) Rigling, of this community. Joseph Rigling, now deceased, has been a prominent resident of Hamilton for many years, his wife and sons are well known and highly respected businessmen of the community. He and his wife have the following children: Joseph, jr., William, Rose, Edward, Josephine, Leo, Paul and Anna. William Rigling was educated in the Catholic parochial schools of Hamilton, following which he pursued a commercial course in a business college. At the age of fifteen he was employed as a clerk, which position he held for five years, starting to work at a meager wage of $2.50 a week. However, from this small salary he managed to save a part each week by starting a saving account in a local building association, his first deposit being fifty cents. From his steady work

and increase of wages he accumulated a sufficient amount to acquire additional education. At the age of twenty years he embarked upon a tour of Europe, traveling over a part of France, Germany, Switzerland and Northern Italy. During this trip, which extended over quite a period, he attended the Paris Exposition. This experience, Mr. Rigling has always felt, was better than a college education to him, for he became broadened in his outlook upon life, while his contact with many peoples equipped him with a knowledge of human nature which has been of inestimable value to him in assisting him to reach his present position. In the year 1915, Mr. Rigling entered the field of real estate, in which he has been engaged ever since, and at present occupies a well-appointed suite of offices in the Rentschler building, where he has every facility for the handling of all business connected with his line of business endeavor. Mr. Rigling's methods in some cases have been novel, but they have been successful beyond what might have been conceived at the outset, his motto "that it must be a square deal for both buyer and seller if deal is made through this office," and his strict enforcement thereof, has brought to him unusual success. His plan has been to purchase large tracts in and adjacent to the city, which he plats, and in addition to selling the lots unimproved, has built homes for people in moderate circumstances, which the latter have purchased by payments in installments. In this way have been built up districts theretofore unimproved, and which would have remained comparatively worthless had their development been left to individual effort. At the present writing, the Rigling Realty company is building seventy-two new homes at Hamilton, in anticipation of the demand for housing facilities created by the advent of the new massive Ford plant, and fifty of these homes have already been completed. Several other tracts are to be developed by him in the near future. Mr. Rigling is positive yet not dogmatic in character, is intuitive and farsighted in intellect, in tastes cultivated and refined, and in his relations to his fellow-men at once upright and liberal. He was married in 1905 to Miss Josephine, daughter of Bernard and Katherine (Holbrock) Pater, of Hamilton, and they are the parents of the following children: Mary Louise, Catherine, Rosaline, Bernard, Cecelia, Ralph, Jovetta and Agnes. The children are being educated in the parochial school of St. Stephens. Mr. and Mrs. Rigling are devout Catholics and active in the various movements of their church. Mr. Rigling is a member of the Knights of Columbus, and a member of local commercial organizations, and Mrs. Rigling was for a number of years a church organist. Also they were active and liberal in their support of all civic movements for a greater Hamilton and those connected with war work.

Frank Riker. Few of the business establishments of Butler county can lay claim to a longer, and none to a more honorable, record than that established by the undertaking and embalming firm of S. P. Riker & Son. For more than a half a century this business has been conducted along a policy of fair dealing and upright transactions, and its place in public confidence is one that can only be gained after a concern has shown itself eminently trustworthy and

honorable. While the founder of this business has passed away, it is still conducted by a member of the family, his son, Frank Riker, who inherited with his father's business ability his high principles, probity and integrity, and who has steadfastly maintained the high standards that assisted the elder man in gaining such an eminent place in the esteem of his fellow-men. Samuel P. Riker, the founder of the business, was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, March 18, 1842, a son of William and Sarah (Balser) Riker, natives of the same county, where they spent their lives in agricultural pursuits. When they passed away, Samuel P. Riker was still a lad and he was reared in the home of a Mr. Humphries, of the same county, with whom he resided until he was seventeen years old. At that time he began to learn the trade of wagon maker at Sharonville, Ohio, but like numerous other youths of his day had his career interrupted by the outbreak of the Civil war. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E, 81st Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he went to Arkansas Post and took part in the battle of Vicksburg, the engagement at Jackson, Miss., the Red River Expedition and the battle of Mobile. In one of these engagements he received a gun-shot wound in the arm, which member was partly paralyzed and troubled him later throughout his life, although he remained with his regiment until receiving his honorable discharge at Camp Dennison, July 24, 1865. After the close of his gallant military service, he returned to Sharonville, where he secured employment at his trade, but in July, 1867, removed to Reily, which was to be his home during the remainder of his life. His injury received in the army bothered him while working at his trade, and in 1869 he turned his attention to the undertaking business, with which he was identified until his death, October 11, 1917. He was a staunch Republican, and his religious affiliation was with the Presbyterian church at Reily, of which his wife, who died April 12, 1914, was also a member. She was Martha A., daughter of Cyrus and Myra Grisson, of Butler county, Ohio, who later in life went to Illinois, where they died. Samuel P. and Martha A. Riker had six children: William, deceased; Ennis, who is in the music business at Reily; Cora, deceased; Frank, of this notice; Homer, a farmer in the Reily community; and Laura, deceased. Frank Riker was born at Reily, Ohio, where he received his early education in the public schools. Later he took a course in a commercial school, and when sixteen years of age went to Chicago, where he took a course in embalming. In 1898 he went to Boston college, and in 1900 returned to Reily, where he became associated with his father in business and remained with him until the elder man was claimed by death. He has since continued the business alone and has not changed the firm style of S. P. Riker & Son, nor the firm policy of upright and honorable dealing. Mr. Riker was married in August, 1916, to Mabel Kennard, of Butler county, daughter of R. J. and Nancy Kennard, the former of whom was a farmer and is now deceased, while the latter survives and is a resident of Reily. He is a valued member of the Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows at Oxford and of the Masons at Reily.

Bernard Ringold was born in Saxe-Weimar, Germany, January

16, 1841, a son of Carl and Ernestine (Mueller) Ringold. Carl Ringold died in Germany, and Mrs. Ringold with her children, Bernard and Pauline, came to this country, settling in Cincinnati. Bernard had learned the baker's trade while in Saxe-Weimar, and became active at his trade in the Ohio city. Pauline, his sister, married August Polster. The mother, Mrs. Ernestine Ringold, died in Cincinnati. The detail of enlisting was too lengthy a process so Ringold went to New York City, where red tape did not retard a soldier's progress in getting into action. Here he enlisted in the first New York Cavalry, one of the most famous horse outfits in the history of the country, and one which aided McClellan along service in Shenandoah valley, one of the bloodiest battlegrounds of the Civil war. At Winchester he served under Sheridan, and here he was wounded and captured, and soon after placed in Libby prison, where he remained for nine months. At the close of hostilities, immediately following his release from the Richmond prison, he came to Oxford. He tells one interesting story of the war, an experience romantic, picturesque, and with a touch of sadness. It is this: His uncle, Frederick Ringold, also served in the Civil war, and during the terrific battle of Sharpsburg, nephew and uncle met at a creek, while watering their horses. They exchanged a few words, but both being under active orders were granted but a brief moment for greeting. With a wave of the hand, Bernard galloped away to the fight, and his uncle leaped to his horse and spurred his horse back to his regiment's lines. It was the first time Bernard Ringold had seen his uncle for years, and he has never seen him since. Bernard Ringold comes from fighting stock, and his family, for three generations, fought for the United States. Two brothers of his grandfather fought on the American side during the Revolutionary war. After the close of the Civil war, Mr. Ringold, with his wife, who was Pauline Neuhaus, and whom he had married in 1865, settled in Oxford, Ohio, where he opened a bakery, in which business he continued until 1918 and his goods were known and demanded for miles around Oxford. Mrs. Ringold was a daughter of Carl Neuhaus and was a favorite among her friends, and with her husband, became quite prominent. During the years of his business, he acquired a considerable amount of property in Oxford and other towns. He was, several years ago, elected president of the Oxford Realty and Loan association, which office he has filled ever since. In civic affairs he served in the village council and on the school board. To Mr. Ringold and his wife have been born the following children: Maria, Edwin, Carl, and Pauline. Maria, now deceased, was married to George Marypenny. Pauline married Edwin Bryer, of Middletown. Carl is engaged in the baking industry, and Edwin is an artist. Mrs. Ringold passed away in April, 1919. Mr. Ringold is one of the prominent business men of Oxford, active in K. P., Odd Fellow, and Civil War Veteran circles. In politics he is a Democrat.

Rev. Daniel F. Rittenhouse, minister and popular lecturer, son of George and Charlotte L. (Parrott) Rittenhouse, was born March 14, 1882, near Delaware, Ohio, on a farm owned and operated by his father. This was the old homestead, where father and son were both

born and reared in the same house. Their ancestors were prominently identified with and took part in the great events in the early settlement of our country. William Rittenhouse, who with others came from Holland in 1688, built the first paper mill in America at Rittenhousetown, now a part of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, and in 1703 became the first bishop of the Mennonite church in this country. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the district school and then went to Doane academy, a preparatory school for Denison university, from which he graduated in 1902. On completion of the sophomore year at Denison university, he went to San Jose, Calif., and graduated from the University of the Pacific. Mr. Rittenhouse next entered Berkeley Baptist seminary, and after graduation there in 1909, went to Great Britain and Europe, spending 1909-1910 in study. Some time was also passed in Africa and Asia, after which he came directly to Middletown, Ohio, taking charge of the First Baptist church of which he was pastor eight years. He is now pastor of First Baptist church, Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Rittenhouse was married in 1911 to Miss Lillie C. Cress, daughter of John S. and Mary A. Fry, both of whom are descendants of old established families of England. To this union four children have been born: Lloyd-George, Lawren Baxter, Mary Louise and Daniel F., jr. Mr. Rittenhouse is a versatile, educated man who has gained distinction not alone in his chosen profession of minister but in almost every phase of life's activities. He enjoys unusual popularity as a speaker and lecturer, and his addresses on social, economic and religious subjects have attracted attention not only in the United States but throughout England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Europe as well. He has made two transcontinental trips, visiting all the large cities of the west. He is personally acquainted with Lloyd George, of England, and while in London received an invitation from Sir Charles Roberts, a Scotch member of Parliament, to visit the House of Commons. A zealous advocate of temperance, Mr. Rittenhouse has been an active worker in all dry campaigns in the state and was the first president of the Butler County Dry Federation. During the late war he was a member of the National Speakers' Bureau of the American Red Cross. He is also a member of the Men's club of Franklin, and of the Chamber of Commerce. Politically he is a Republican, holding liberal views.

Amel Ritter. Prominent among the younger element of the agricultural representation of Butler county is found Amel Ritter, whose finely cultivated property is located in Wayne township, not far from the village of Seven Mile. Mr. Ritter was born in Wayne township, February 29, 1871, a son of Jacob and Melinda (Jacobs) Ritter. Jacob Ritter was born on the River Rhine, Germany, in 1825, and attended the schools of his native land, receiving a good educational training. In 1856 he came alone to America on a sailing vessel which consumed forty-eight days in making the voyage, his first location being at Fort Hamilton. During his voyage on the Ohio river, he witnessed a slave market held on a boat off the Kentucky shore, during which a number of the slaves attempted to escape but were recaptured by their owners. Mr. Ritter took up his

residence at Woodsdale, Ohio, subsequently went to Collinsville, and finally located in Wayne township settling on the farm now occupied by his widow and son, in section 18. There he made all the improvements, put his land under cultivation, and continued as a progressive and industrious farmer all his life, his death occurring September 20, 1909, when he was eighty-four years of age. Mr. Ritter became a substantial and influential citizen in his community, and served on the school board for many years. He was a Democrat in his political views, and a member of St. John's German Lutheran church at Hamilton. He married Melinda, daughter of Fred Jacobs of Woodsdale, a pioneer of that community, and they became the parents of eight children, as follows: Edward, who was a hotel keeper of Cincinnati and died in 1915; Henry, who died on the home farm at the age of forty-two years; Amelia, the wife of J. W. Augspurger, of Lemon township, Butler county; Amel; Ida K., the wife of J. E. Cooper, of Chicago, Ill.; Elizabeth, the wife of Wilbur Daugherty, of Seven Mile, Ohio; Daniel, a photographer of Chicago; and one child who died in infancy. Amel Ritter was educated in the public schools of Wayne township, and has always lived at the old home place where he was reared. Agriculture has been his life work and he has made a success in the departments of general farming and stock raising, making somewhat of a specialty of breeding Jersey Red hogs, Polled Durham cattle and Draft horses. In addition to the home acres Mr. Ritter farms other land in Wayne township, Butler county, and all of his property is very productive and improved with the best of buildings and equipment. He uses modern methods in his work, making a particular study of each phase of agricultural invention and advancement. He is also somewhat of a student of current events, being a well-read man, fond of his home and his library. He is unmarried and makes his home with his mother, and both are members of the Presbyterian church, attending services at Collinsville. Mr. Ritter's agricultural work has been sufficient to satisfy him, and he has never had the inclination to serve in public office, although as a good citizen he places his name on the list when worthy movements are advocated. His political sympathies cause him to support Democratic candidates for office.

Daniel J. Roberts, a well known farmer, son of George W. and Mary (Rumple) Roberts, was born in St. Charles, Morgan township, Butler county, January 2, 1856. His paternal grandparents were John and Elizabeth (Guilder) Roberts. His father, George W. Roberts, was born in Virginia, and came to Butler county with his parents, who were also parents of the following children: Adeline, who married Daniel Rumple; Emma, Mrs. Wilson; Margaret; Mary, who became the wife of John Willett; David, William and Edward, all deceased; Daniel; and George, the father of Daniel J. Roberts, the subject of this biography. David and Edward Roberts served throughout the Civil war, the latter losing life in battle. John Roberts, the grandfather, also fought in the Civil war, and was lost in action. It is thought that the brave old soldier was killed, as he was never heard from again. George W. Roberts, Daniel Roberts' father, married Mary Rumple, and settled in Morgan township. She

was a daughter of Daniel Rumple, a pioneer merchant of Butler county, who had conducted a hardware business at Hamilton. George Roberts and his wife spent their entire lives in Morgan township. Their children were: Daniel J.; Albert, who lives in Richland, Mo.; Orella, who became the wife of Samuel Gillespie; and Edgar, deceased. Daniel J. Roberts attended school in Morgan township, and at Hamilton, after which he engaged in farming. In 1877 he married Addie De Armond, daughter of Randolph and Mary (George) De Armond. After marriage, Mr. Roberts and his wife settled in Morgan township, on the old Morehouse farm. Their union has been blessed with these children: George, James, Lora, Effie, Phoebe, Imogene and Grace. George Roberts married Carrie Prall, who lives in Hamilton, and has two children, Eugene and Dorothy; James married Alta Cornett, and with their one child, they reside with his father. Lora died some years ago. Effie became the wife of Frank Durham, and has two children, John and Margery. Phoebe has not married. Imogene was married to Clarence Connett, and their home is in Carthage. They have one child, Willard. Grace has not married. Daniel J. Roberts' farm is one of great natural beauty, and in size totals 121 acres. Upon this farm, besides his agricultural work, he raises fine Jersey cattle, and today is the owner of seventeen head. During the war Mr. Roberts entered actively into home service in connection with all patriotic activities. In politics, he is a Democrat.

Alexander R. Robinson, one of the prominent and successful merchants of Shandon, Ohio, was born in Shandon, then known as Paddy's Run, July 9, 1856. He was a son of H. H. and Josephine (Glancy) Robinson. His great-great-grandfather, Samuel Robinson, served in the Revolutionary war as a soldier of the Colony of New Jersey. He married a Miss Hufty, a charming colonial lass of Holland Dutch descent. Among the children born to Samuel Robinson and wife, was Samuel, jr., the grandfather of Alexander Robinson. He was born in New Jersey, and grew to manhood in Philadelphia, Pa. He was a master cobbler, or shoemaker, by trade, and in 1818, came to Ohio and settled in Morgan township, Butler county. He married Mariah Ent, daughter of Major Charles and Mary (Johnson) Ent. Major Ent was a veteran of the War of 1812. Samuel and Mariah Ent Robinson were the parents of these children: H. H., Moses, Jane, Elizabeth, Caroline, Mary, Samuel, and Maria. Samuel Robinson and his wife passed away years ago, and were buried in the Shandon cemetery. H. H. Robinson, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Huntington county, N. J., May 16, 1816, and when he was two years old, was brought by his parents to Butler county, where the family settled. December 7, 1847, he married Josephine Glancy, daughter of Joseph and Hetty (Rittenhouse) Glancy. They were the parents of the following children: Mary May, unmarried, living in Shandon; Erastus, who is now a well-known physician, first married Emma Evans and they were the parents of one child, Claudie; later he married Mary Williams Cochran, and to them have been born two children, Clinton and Paul R.; Alexander; Samuel, married; Evelyn, who married Albert

Schwartz, and lives in Greenville; Charles, unmarried living at Shandon; H. H. jr., a farmer of Ross township; Josephine, Amelia, Anna, and Hetty, and others deceased. Joseph Glancy of French Huguenot parentage, was born in Pennsylvania, and was a miller by trade, and known the countryside over. His wife of Holland Dutch descent came with her family to southwestern Ohio in the early part of the nineteenth century, and later settled in Hamilton county. Alexander R. Robinson received his education in the schools of Shandon, and upon completing his studies, he entered the employ of his father, in the mercantile business, later, taking the business over, in connection with which he operates a forty acre farm. In 1890 he married Ellen Williamson, daughter of John and Sarah (Walker) Williamson, of Crosby township, Hamilton county. Sarah Walker was a weaver, and for a number of years lived near New Baltimore. John Williamson was the son of Owen Williamson, a veteran of the Revolutionary war. Owen and John Walker, uncles of Mrs. Robinson, were soldiers in the Civil war. The former lost his life during an engagement with the enemy. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Robinson are the parents of two children: Alexander Rea and Anna Ruth. The latter married Herald Jackmann, an undertaker of Harrison, Ohio. Alexander Rea was a member of the 39th Division, Field Artillery, received his training at Camp Beauregard, in Louisiana; crossed the seas to France and fought valiantly for the cause of democracy, receiving his honorable discharge May 29, 1919. While he was overseas, fighting for democracy, his family at home were active in war work. Mr. Robinson is a member of the local Pythian and Odd Fellow lodges, and votes with the Democratic party.

W. N. Rogers, M. D. Among the physicians of Butler county who have seen service in two of this country's wars, Dr. W. N. Rogers, of Hamilton, is worthy of distinction for the part which he played in the recent great struggle in Europe, where he saw active service on the St. Mihiel and Argonne front. Doctor Rogers was born at Concordville, Delaware county, Pa., in 1871, and secured his early educational training in the public schools there, graduating from the high school with the class of 1889. When he left school he took up the trade of painter, which he followed for about five years, and in this way secured the means with which he put himself through a course of study at Hahnemann Medical college, Philadelphia, Pa., from which he received his degree of M. D., May 12, 1898. At that time the Spanish-American war came on and he enlisted as a private in the 1st United States Engineers, Company D, and was sent to Porto Rico, where he passed through that campaign safely. Upon receiving his honorable discharge from the army, he commenced the practice of medicine at Blair, Ohio, in February, 1900, and April 6, 1906, located at Hamilton. Here he established himself in the enjoyment of an excellent practice, to the duties of which he applied himself until he entered the United States Medical Corps as a first lieutenant, September 22, 1917. He was called into the active service January 20, 1918, at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and remained there until April 25th, when he was ordered to Camp Pike and assigned to the 345th Infantry. May 30th he was transferred

to the 162d Depot Brigade, and June 10 was assigned to the 319th Quartermaster's Labor Battalion, and on that date left for Newport News in charge of a troop train. July 10, 1918, he sailed for France on board the Powhatan and landed at Brest, France, July 21st. After five days at Camp Pontanezen, he went to Gievres, July 29, and August 4 was ordered to Chaumont, Base hospital, No. 15. August 9th he was assigned to duty with Mobile Hospital No. 1, and reached Chateau Thierry August 12, serving with that unit through its fierce fighting in the Argonne and the St. Mihiel salient until September 30. He was then transferred to Evacuation hospital, No. 114, in the Argonne, but was only there a short time when he was taken down with pneumonia following an attack of gas poisoning, and was sent to Base hospital No. 23, at Veta. Later he was transferred to Base hospital, No. 9, Chateau Rue, and when discharged therefrom was sent to Le Mans and assigned to Field hospital 115, Sanitary train 104, 29th Division. November 14th he was transferred to the 3d Division and assigned to duty with the 30th Infantry, but on account of the ill effects of his previous illness was ordered as a convalescent to Base hospital 51, Toul, France, and returned home via St. Nazaire, February 22, 1918. He was sent to the Convalescent hospital in this country and received his honorable discharge May 21, 1919. February 24, 1919, by order of the commanding general of the American Expeditionary Forces, he had been promoted to the rank of captain, United States Medical corps. When he again came back to Hamilton, Captain Rogers resumed his practice, and is again looking after the needs of a large and representative clientele, and making progress in his profession, as a skilled and learned physician and surgeon, and a man whose sympathies have been broadened by his experiences. He belongs to the various organizations of his profession, to the Knights of Pythias and to the American Legion.

Henry J. Rosselot. To the man of industry and enterprise a life of retirement, after many years spent in hard and faithful toil, seems repellent, and not until he feels absolutely convinced that he has done his share in developing his community will the average Miami valley farmer relinquish his hold upon active operations. Then, when he finally does settle down in his home in the nearby city or town, he is bound to prove a valuable asset to the community and is invariably a welcome addition to its citizenship. Henry J. Rosselot, who for many years was a successful farmer of Butler county, is now living in retirement at Middletown. He was born at Lerado, Ohio, a son of parents who were natives of France and came to America in their youth, being married in 1850 at St. Xavier's church, Cincinnati, and shortly thereafter removing to their farm at Lerado, where they rounded out their honorable lives and died in 1904. Their family consisted of eight children: George, deceased; Mary, of Lerado; Henry J.; Frank, of Glendale; Kate, of Fayetteville; Elizabeth, deceased; Julia, of California; and Charles, of Lerado. Henry J. Rosselot was educated in the public schools and early adopted farming as his life work. Following his marriage in 1882, he located on a farm at Lerado, where he made his home until

HENRY J. ROSSELOT

MRS. H. J. ROSSELOT

1906, and in that year purchased a farm in Madison township, Butler county, which he operated successfully until one of his sons, Leo, enlisted in the Aviation Service during the great war, the family then moving to 203 McKinley avenue, Middletown, the present home. Through industry and the intelligent use of practical and modern methods, Mr. Rosselot made a success of his farming ventures. He is the proud possessor of a gold medal, awarded to him as the champion corn grower of Butler county, and this ability has been inherited by his children, one of his sons, Iuen, having won a trip to Washington, D. C., by raising 113½ bushels of corn on one acre of land. After a successful career as an agriculturist, he now leads a quiet life at his home on McKinley avenue and is highly esteemed by the people of his community. He takes no part in politics, but is a citizen who is interested in civic affairs as they affect the welfare of the community, and supports all good movements with his ability and means. Mr. Rosselot was married August 29, 1882, to Margaret, daughter of Bernard Berwanger, who was born at Nanzweiler-an-Glau, Canton Waldmohr, Rhein Province, Germany, March 18, 1824. He came to the United States at the age of thirty years and resided at Cincinnati until 1858, when he was married at St. Xavier's church, Cincinnati, Ohio, to Marie Catzelle, who was born at Paris, France. They purchased a farm in Brown county, near Fayetteville, where they reared a family of seven children: Charles, who resides on the home farm; John, a resident of Fayetteville; Margaret, who is now Mrs. Rosselot; Elizabeth Iuen and Anna Rosselot, of Glendale; Bernard, of Cincinnati; and Mrs. Edith Stroup, of Lynchburg, Ohio. The mother of these children died April 12, 1903, at the age of sixty-four years, and Mr. Berwanger, the father, passed away May 24, 1919, at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Mrs. Rosselot is a very accomplished woman, a talented musician and the possessor of a fine mind and attractive personality. She and her husband are the parents of the following children: Bernard, who resides at Akron; Clyde, a resident of West Chester, this state; Leo, who, following his honorable discharge from the Aviation Corps and his subsequent marriage, resides at Grandview, Wash.; and Marguerite, Adelaide and Iuen, who reside with their parents at the attractive home at Middletown. The whole family belong to the Catholic church.

Charles E. Rossfeld. Of the followers of any of the important trades, no better recommendation is required than the credit of long employment under a reliable management. For a number of years Charles E. Rossfeld has been employed at the Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill, and is regarded as having as practical a knowledge of his vocation as any employee of this large industry. Mr. Rossfeld was born at Pittsburg, Pa., August 31, 1861, a son of John and Caroline (Zimmer) Rossfeld. His father was born in Steinbach, Bavaria, in 1833, but in 1853, when less than twenty-one years of age, left his native land to escape the hardships of the unjust military system and located at Pittsburg, where he was married in 1857, to Caroline Zimmer, a native of Reihweiler, Bavaria. They became the parents of three children: John, a resident of

Lima, Ohio; Emma, the wife of Herman Koethe of Pittsburg, Pa.; and Charles E. John Rossfeld was connected with the boiler works at Pittsburg during the greater part of his active career, but lived retired for a few years prior to his death, which occurred September 29, 1893, his widow surviving until September 14, 1908. Charles E. Rossfeld was educated in the public schools of Pittsburg, and grew up in a milling community, so it was natural that he should adopt that vocation when he reached the age when he was ready to enter upon his own career. For the past several years he has been a roller at the Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill, and has evidenced industry, steadiness of character and ability in all departments of his work, characteristics that have done much to make him one of the trusted men of the plant. He is considerate of his fellow-employees, with whom he is a general favorite. Mr. Rossfeld was married February 2, 1894, at Piqua, Ohio, at which place he had been employed in the mill from the time of his arrival in 1889, to Miss Bertha Dieffenbacher, whose mother died in September, 1904, while it is a curious although sad coincidence that her father passed away on the same date as did her husband's mother, September 14, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Rossfeld are the parents of four children: Carl, residing at home, who is a heater in the plant of the American Rolling mill; Adeline, who entered the service of the Intelligence Department at Washington, D. C., in 1918, and whose services have been so highly valued that she is still retained there; and Frances and Catherine, who reside with their parents at the pleasant family home at No. 545 E. Third street. Mr. and Mrs. Rossfeld belong to the Presbyterian church, of which their children are also members. They are modest and unassuming people, kind and affectionate in their family, and respected by their neighbors. Mr. Rossfeld is a Republican in politics, but his political activities have been confined to the casting of his ballot for his party's candidates. Fraternally, he is a Mason, in which he has passed through four bodies, and a member of the Junior Order United American Mechanics. He is also a member in good standing of the Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers.

J. E. Rothenbush, D. D. S., was born December 27, 1867, in Hamilton, Ohio. He was the son of Phillip and Ollie Rothenbush, natives of Hamilton and Oxford respectively, who were members of pioneer families in Butler county. They were the parents of five children, four of whom are now living: Phillip was a dealer in fruits and seeds, opening one of the first fruit stores in Hamilton. Dr. Rothenbush received his early education in the public schools of this city, and at the age of nineteen entered the Ohio Dental college taking a full course in dental surgery. Receiving his degree in 1889, he located in Manchester, Ohio, where he entered upon the practice of his chosen profession. After remaining here about two years he decided to return to Hamilton, opening an office at the corner of Third and Court streets, where he has built up a most substantial and satisfactory practice. He was married to Hattie Hites, and to this union, one child, Harold P., was born. Dr. Rothenbush is a member of the Presbyterian church, and, in his political bent, has always supported the principles of the Republican party.

Andrew Rubekas. One of the enterprising and progressive young citizens of Oxford is Andrew Rubekas, the proprietor of the establishment known as the Purity Confectionery on Main street. Mr. Rubekas has been in this country only eight years, but during this time has advanced steadily along the road to success. Andrew Rubekas was born in Corinth, Greece, in 1894, a son of Gust Rubekas, who is a small farmer in that country and a member of a family which bears an honored name. There were two sons in the family: Andrew and an elder brother, James, the latter of whom served in the Greek army during the great World war and was captured and held prisoner by the Germans. Andrew Rubekas received a public school education in his native land and as a youth assisted his father on the small home farm and when seventeen years of age came to the United States. When he reached his destination, at Terre Haute, Ind., where he had acquaintances, he secured employment as a helper in a candy kitchen and thus learned the trade of candy making, at which he worked several years as a journeyman, traveling to different large cities of the country, finally locating at Lebanon, Ohio, where he purchased a store and entered into business for himself. Not liking this location, he sold out his holdings, and for six months worked at Elwood, then came to Oxford, where, in 1916, in partnership with Evans Johnson, he opened his present fine store on Main street. This is a handsome establishment, finished in mahogany, with the latest and most artistic fixtures and equipment of all kinds. He deals in soda water, ice cream, confections of all kinds, fruit, etc., and has built up a splendid trade. Mr. Rubekas is courteous, obliging and pleasant by nature and has made and maintained many friendships among his patrons. He and Mr. Johnson are the owners of another establishment of a like nature, located at Sidney, Ohio, which is managed by Mr. Johnson.

George L. Rudder was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, the son of George and Barbara (Rammes) Rudder, both of whom were born in Germany. On coming to this country, the parents settled in New York, then went to Pennsylvania, and in 1859 moved to Butler county, remaining there until death. Their children were: John, married Ella Schmutzler, has five children; George L., subject of this sketch; Mary, Margaret. George L. was educated in Hamilton county, and upon leaving school farmed with his father on what is known as the J. W. Mack place, in Fairfield township. This is one of the well-known estates in that section and has been continuously occupied by the Rudder family for the past forty-six years. Our subject farms ninety-five acres of the homestead, and his brother, John, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work, cares for a large acreage. George Rudder and his sisters, Mary and Margaret, make their home together and enjoy the prosperity that has come as a result of their united and continued efforts through the years of the past. Fairfield township was also the birthplace of the Misses Rudder. Our subject took a prominent part in all war activities. He has always been a Republican and is a member of the Lutheran church.

John Lenhard Rudder, well-known farmer of Fairfield town-

ship, Butler county, Ohio, was born in Pennsylvania, son of George and Barbara (Rammes) Rudder, both of whom were born in Germany. On coming to this country, the parents first settled in New York, then went to Pennsylvania, and in 1859, moved to Butler county, and there remained until death. Their children were: John Lenhard, our subject; George, Mary, Margaret. John Lenhard received the advantages of the common schools, and on the completion of their curriculum, he immediately entered upon farm work, which throughout the years has been his service. April 27, 1887, he was married to Ella Schmutzler, daughter of Adam and Marguerita (Bauer) Schmutzler, of Butler county. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Rudder moved upon a part of what is known as the J. W. Mack place, in Fairfield township, and have since continuously resided there. Here Mr. Rudder has under cultivation 185 acres, and through able management, his farm yields very profitable returns. To Mr. and Mrs. Rudder, five children have been born: George L., who married Minnie Pavey, and has one child, Raymond Scott; Anna M., Mrs. Carl Meier; Esther, Edwin and Frieda. Mr. Rudder took a commendable part in the patriotic activities of the late war. In church relationship, he is a Lutheran; in politics, he is a Republican.

George Stemple Rupp. For three generations the Rupp family has conducted a large and flourishing meat and packing business in Hamilton, and each of the proprietors has displayed the same honorable methods and policies that have been so highly esteemed by the general public. The president of the company at this time is George Stemple Rupp, one of the leading business men of the younger generation at Hamilton. He was born at Hamilton, July 27, 1888, a son of George Jacob and Catherine (Stemple) Rupp, the former a native of Hamilton and the latter of Cleveland, Ohio. The family was founded in Butler county by the grandfather of George S. Rupp, who came as a pioneer business man to Hamilton, and during the Civil war engaged in the packing business, also taking part in that struggle as a wearer of the Union blue. He had two children: George Jacob and a Mrs. Seidensticker, now deceased. The business, originally founded on South A street, was continued after the founder's death by his son, on Sycamore street. George J. Rupp was an honorable business man, and a citizen of public spirit and constructive ideas. He and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom three grew to maturity: Mrs. William Mason; Waldo, who joined the U. S. Army as a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster's Department, and was sent from Jacksonville, Fla., to France, where he saw active service and was promoted to first lieutenant; and George Stemple. George Stemple Rupp attended the public schools of Hamilton and after graduating from the high school in 1907, entered the University of Chicago, where he took a commercial course. He then returned to Hamilton and entered business with his father, going into the retail meat department at 122 High street, one of the two stores of this company, of which he has been president since his father's demise. As a citizen he has given his hearty and valuable support to all movements tending

toward progress and advancement in civic, educational and religious affairs. Mr. Rupp was married February 20, 1913, to Winnifred, daughter of R. J. Patton, an awning and tent manufacturer of 242 E. Fourth street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and they have one child: Catherine Louise, born July 24, 1917. Mr. Rupp is a member of the St. Paul's Evangelical church and Mrs. Rupp of St. Mary's Catholic church, and their pleasant home is situated at No. 122 Ross avenue. Mr. Rupp fraternizes with the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Waldo Rupp, formerly secretary and treasurer of the Rupp Packing company, this company owning two stores in Hamilton, was sold August 5, 1919, to The Rupp Meat company, of which Waldo Rupp is the sole owner and manager and is doing a large retail and jobbing business. He has made rapid advancement of recent years in assuming a position of importance in business circles of Hamilton, where he has already gained the reputation of being an alert, progressive and energetic man of affairs. Born in 1891, at Hamilton, he is a son of George and Catherine Rupp, and belongs to a well-known and highly esteemed family of the city, a review of which will be found elsewhere in this work in the sketch of George Rupp. After graduating from the Hamilton High school in 1908, Waldo Rupp attended the University of Michigan for one year, and then spent a like period in Miami university. Returning to Hamilton he pursued a course in the Hamilton Business college, then entering the packing business with his father. In 1913 he assumed the duties of secretary and treasurer of The Geo. Rupp Packing company, positions he retained until the sale of the business, and in which he gained the entire confidence of his associates. When the United States entered the great World War, Mr. Rupp went to the Officers Training Camp, at Jacksonville, Fla., to prepare for the Quartermaster's Corps, and was commissioned second lieutenant July 31, 1918. Subsequently he was sent overseas and stationed at I-sur-Tiel, France, where in February, 1919, he was promoted first lieutenant. He remained until June, 1919, at which time he received his honorable discharge and returned to Hamilton to resume his duties with the then Rupp Packing company. Mr. Rupp is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and is a voter with independent tendencies. He is unmarried and resides at the home of his parents.

Jackson P. Rush. In the person of Jackson P. Rush, Butler county has an enterprising and progressive farmer, and one who during a long period has promoted the best interests of the community. He has been the developer of a handsome and valuable farm, situated on the Oxford State road, which is his present home, and in other ways has been a constructive factor in the progress which has added to the agricultural prestige of this part of the Miami valley during the past several decades. Mr. Rush was born in Preble county, Ohio, May 24, 1864, a son of Jackson and Eliza Ann (Thomas) Rush. On both sides of the family he comes of excellent stock, members of the Rush and Thomas family having been identified with this region for a number of years in positions of

prominence in their various communities. A great-uncle of Mr. Rush, Joseph Kelly, was a wealthy pork packer of Middletown some years ago. The paternal grandparents of Mr. Rush were Moses and Rachael (Kelly) Rush, who came to Ohio at an early day from Washington county, Pa., and took up 160 acres of Government land as a claim and lived thereon during the rest of their lives. They were the parents of seven children: Rachael, who became the wife of John Ross; Kezzie, who married Tom Imes; Cynthia, who married John Allen; Mary, who became the wife of Ozra Bates; Lydia, who became the wife of John Kelley; Jacob, who married Rachael Marsh; and Jackson, father of Jackson P. Jackson Rush was born in Ohio, and was married January 1, 1851, at Camden, this state, to Eliza Ann Thomas, and to their union there were born six children: William, deceased; Thomas, a resident of Indiana; Jackson P.; Mrs. Lydia A. Yager; Mary, married Col. Thompson; Ella, married a Mr. Bass and lives in Illinois. Jackson P. Rush received his education in the public schools and aside from his education all his boyhood training was along the lines of agriculture. He proved an apt pupil, and when he reached manhood was fully prepared to take up farming on his own account and to hold his own in competition. His subsequent years have been ones in which he has labored faithfully, industriously and practically, with the result that his fine property of 133 acres is highly productive and boasts of excellent improvements, including an attractive residence of eleven rooms. He uses up-to-date methods in his work and is accounted a highly skilled and thoroughly well informed man in all the departments of the vocation which has been his life work. In political matters his adherence is with the candidates and policies of the Democratic party, although he has been acting rather as a voter and a supporter of good movements than as a seeker after personal preferment. One of his most highly-prized possessions is an old Bible, presented to his mother seventy-five years ago by the Rev. John H. Thomas. Mr. Rush was married June 11, 1904, at Seven Mile, Ohio, by the Reverend Huffman, to Mary J., daughter of William and Matilda (Allen) Wolverton, the former of whom died in May, 1907, and the latter in September, 1888. Mrs. Rush had three sisters and one brother: Anna; Edna, who is deceased; Sarah, the wife of George Paullen; and David, who is deceased. The family is highly esteemed in its locality, where its members have numerous sincere friends.

William H. Rutledge, now deceased, was during his useful life one of the leading agriculturists of Butler county, and when he died he left behind him a finely developed farm, where his family still reside. He was born at Rossville, Ohio, May 16, 1845, a son of James and Mary (Mustard) Rutledge. James Rutledge was born in Pennsylvania, although his parents were natives of Virginia, and his wife was born in West Hamilton, Ohio. In young manhood, James Rutledge came to Butler county, Ohio, where he died in 1849, having been a teamster all of his active life. He and his wife had the following children: Mary, Martha, Margaret, Sarah, William H., and an unnamed son. William H. Rutledge attended the schools of his neighborhood, and remained with his family until his enlist-

ment for service during the Civil war, September 10, 1861, in Company I, 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, at Hamilton, Ohio, and was sent south. He received his honorable discharge at Chattanooga, Tenn., September 23, 1864, having participated in many battles and skirmishes, and done his full duty as a soldier. Returning home to Butler county, Mr. Rutledge continued to live with his mother and sisters until his marriage in 1883, when he began farming in Lemon township, conducting the Hoffman farm for twenty-eight years. In 1913 he bought the present farm of the family, comprising 186 acres of land, two and one-half miles west of Monroe, Ohio, R. F. D. No. 1, Kyle, Ohio, where he carried on general farming until his death, June 21, 1915. His remains were interred in the beautiful "city of the Dead" at Hamilton, Ohio. January 4, 1883, Mr. Rutledge was united in marriage with Mary Hoffman, of Fairfield township, Butler county, a daughter of George and Mary Barbara (Dingfelder) Hoffman, both of whom were born in Germany. When young people they came to the United States, locating at Pittsburg, Pa., where they met and were married. They then came to Ohio, and secured a farm of wild land in Fairfield township, Butler county, which they cleared and developed. Mr. Hoffman died on this farm in April, 1887, his widow surviving him until 1911, when she passed away at the age of ninety-two years. Five of the nine Hoffman children are now living, namely: George, who is a farmer of Plainview, Texas; Barbara, who is the widow of Joseph Matson of Monroe station, Ohio; Louise, her twin sister, who is unmarried; Anna, who is also unmarried; and Mary, who is Mrs. Rutledge. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge are as follows: Anna Louise, Martha Elizabeth, and William Stanley, all of whom are living with their mother. Mr. Rutledge was a member of the Christian church of Hamilton, Ohio, but his family belong to the United Presbyterian church of Monroe, Ohio. He was a staunch Republican, but did not care for office. A quiet, unassuming man, Mr. Rutledge devoted himself to his family, and worked long and hard to provide properly for them, and when he died had the satisfaction of knowing that he had made for them one of the best rural homes in the county, and that he also left behind him a reputation for scrupulous honesty, and unflinching adherence to his word. He was widely known in the county which gave him birth, and when he passed away, he was mourned by many who realized that a good citizen and upright man was gone from their midst.

Melville E. Sarchet. Since 1911 one of the skilled workmen at the American Rolling mill, Middletown, has been Melville E. Sarchet. He is another of the men who have devoted their entire lives to this kind of activity, and who through it have found the road to independence and contenment. Mr. Sarchet was born at Cambridge, Guernsey county, Ohio, and is of French descent. His grandfathr, Thomas Sarchet, on leaving France, went to the Guernsey Isles, finding there a refuge from religious persecution which had been inflicted upon him in his native land. In 1803, he sailed for America and upon his arrival located in what is now Guernsey county, which was named in honor of the community which had

formerly been his home. The first M. E. church in Guernsey county was organized in his own home, on the corner of Seventh and Steubenville streets, and is the site upon which the present church edifice now stands, over the door of which stands his name. On his mother's side, Mr. Sarchet's ancestors were the Tyrodes, from Pennsylvania. Melville E. Sarchet was educated in the public schools of Cambridge and at Canal Dover, Ohio, received his introduction to the rolling mill industry in a minor capacity. Subsequently, he went to Cambridge, Ohio, where he also worked in the mills for a time, and later went to Martin's Ferry and from there came to Middletown in 1911, to accept a position with the American Rolling mills, where he is now a roller. He is a trusted employee, is thoroughly familiar with the workings of the mills and with the special duties pertaining to his own position, and is popular with his fellows and respected by his superiors. Mr. Sarchet was married to Frances, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Davis, the former born October 15, 1833, and the latter April 23, 1834, in Wales, where they were married. Mr. Sarchet's father-in-law, who died in 1912, was known as an electrical genius, and also as the man to roll the first steel rail in the state of Ohio. His wife passed away February 9, 1906. She was a woman of beautiful Christian character, whose life was one of self-sacrificing attention to others, and at whose death, the minister performing the funeral ceremony, said: "She lived for others." Like her husband, she was a devout member of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of several children: Ben I., of Pittsburg, Pa., editor of the Amalgamated Journal; John, of Warren, Ohio; Mrs. Margaret Hood, of Pittsburg; George, of Cambridge; David, of Warren; Mrs. Sarchet, of Middletown; and Will, of Cambridge; Tom died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Sarchet there have been born two sons: Harry Sarchet, D. D. S., of Dayton; and John, of Middletown. Dr. Harry Sarchet is a graduate of Middletown High school, class of 1915, and of Ohio State university, in dentistry, class of 1918. Following his graduation from the state university, he was engaged in a professional capacity with the Goodrich Rubber company, at Akron, Ohio, whence he went to Dayton, March 1, 1919. There he has handsome offices at the corner of Fifth and Main streets, where his proficiency has been recognized by the patronage of a large clientele. John, a graduate of Middletown High school, class of 1919, has also taken up the study of dentistry at Ohio State university. Since coming to Middletown, Melville Sarchet has built a beautiful home on Christel avenue, where he and his wife, both people of delightful personality, are always ready to welcome their numerous friends. They are consistent members of the M. E. church, the movements of which they support generously. Mr. Sarchet's fraternal affiliations include membership in the local lodge of the Masons and has represented his lodge several times at National conventions and also served as a member of the district executive board, and for three years was president of Amalgamated Association of A. of I. S. & T. U. During the World war he was appointed by Mr. Croxton as one of the committee on the food conservancy. Liberal in politics he takes no active part in

public affairs but as a good citizen is ready at all times to lend his aid to all movements which promise to be of benefit to his community or its people. The parents of Mr. Sarchet are living in Cambridge, Ohio, and he is the brother of Oscar T., Joseph M., Charles G., Myrtle, Winifred and May, who is deceased.

Charles E. Sauers. "Write me, as one who loves his fellow-man," said Abou-Ben-Adhem, the Arab, to the angel of his dream, "One who loves his fellow-man," is the highest compliment that can be paid to any mortal. This expression, in its best sense, may well be applied to Charles E. Sauers, whose genial personality, and abounding good-humor has endeared him to the hearts of his many friends of Hamilton and elsewhere. To meet Mr. Sauers is to be at once impressed with his evident sincerity of character, and his very genial and engaging disposition. Mr. Sauers has long been active in the business and social life of Hamilton. He was born in Stockton, Butler county, Ohio, September 11, 1877, son Alexander and Mary M. (Peters) Sauers, who were of French and German descent, respectively. While living in Germany, Alexander Sauers learned the wine making business, having worked in some of the noted wine-cellars of that country. He became an expert wine maker and, after coming to this country, he engaged in that business at Stockton. Here he achieved a splendid reputation as a wine maker and his products were known far and wide for their purity and excellence. To Alexander Sauers were born the following children, who attained their majority: Charles E., Rev. Wm. J. of Chester, W. Va., Louis, Joseph, Henry, Paul. Alexander Sauers died July 10, 1910, and his wife January 25, 1905. They were very highly respected, in the neighborhood in which they lived. The Sauers family is a credit to these two most deserving parents, whose lives were lived in that good old-fashioned manner, so rare nowadays. Charles E. Sauers, second in order of birth of the Sauers boys, was educated at the Stockton public schools and later studied medicine for three years attending lectures at the Miami Medical college. After leaving Medical college he took employment with the Cox & Fargo Department store in Hamilton. He later started the Sauers Claim Adjusting company, in which business he has been eminently successful. All manner of claims have been successfully adjusted through the Sauers agency. It may be said in this connection, that not only have the interests of the claimants been at all times conserved, but the claims have been adjusted in a very diplomatic and satisfactory manner to all parties concerned. Mr. Sauers having secured an interest in the Lambert Tire & Rubber company, of Akron, Ohio, and Portland, Ore., has the distribution of the product of this company in Butler and Hamilton counties, Ohio. The demand at this time is greater than the production of these tires. Mr. Sauers expects and his friends predict that he will meet with splendid success in his new venture. He will carry to his new business that same thoroughness that has served him so well in his other ventures. No doubt his product will prove a prime favorite among many automobilists of Hamilton and vicinity. Mr. Sauers is a great out-of-doors enthusiast and is an ardent lover of nature, hunter and fisher-

man. He journeys to Florida each year, where he has often entertained many of his friends, at his lodge at that place.

Frank Sauer stands prominent as an educator and is one who must be accorded much credit for the estimable reputation achieved by Millville and Butler county for its educational facilities. He is not only known as a teacher of rare ability, but as one who has the happy faculty of imparting his knowledge to others, as a man who is admirably equipped to have charge of the moral as well as mental training of the young. He has achieved a most enviable reputation as one of the really progressive educators of Butler county, and personally, he has always been popular with his pupils. He was born in Hanover township, Butler county, Ohio, January 20, 1877, the youngest of eight children of George and Mary (Diver) Sauer, the other children being: Elizabeth, who became Mrs. M. W. Stumpf; Samuel; Ella, who became Mrs. Woolensnyder; George, Flora, David and Gus. The parents lived in Hanover township many years, going from there to Ross township. Frank Sauer was educated in the grammar and high school and at Lebanon Normal school. He began teaching in 1904 and taught five years at Millville. Previous to which he taught in the schools of Hanover and Ross townships. In 1911, he married Miss Anna Snyder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Snyder of Ross township, who later became residents of Liberty township. Mr. Sauer and wife have one child, Frances, aged seven years. In addition to being interested in many of the activities during the recent World war he also has membership in the Red Cross. As an evidence of his industry and native ability it might be stated that Mr. Sauer in addition to following the duties of school teacher, found time to learn a trade and it is said that he is a carpenter of more than average ability. His standing in his community is the highest and he is admired by a large circle of friends.

Adolph Schaefer. That congenial work means successful accomplishment finds emphatic expression in the career of Adolph Schaefer, whose well-cultivated farm lies in the vicinity of Jacksonboro. When he entered upon his independent career as a farmer Mr. Schaefer had little to mark his efforts save a strong determination to succeed. Indefatigable industry, economy and common sense enabled him to accomplish in good order all that he had planned, and today he feels a just pride in his surroundings, in their neatness and order; also in the comfortable and well furnished house, and the many facilities for carrying on his industry. Mr. Schaefer was born in Butler county, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Pfeiff) Schaefer, who passed their lives as agriculturists and were substantial and highly respected people of their community. Both are now deceased, the father having passed away December 27, 1914, and the later September 18, 1918. Adolph Schaefer received his education in the public schools, and as a young man adopted the vocation of agriculture for his life work, an occupation in which he has not only found success but also contentment. He is at present the owner of what is known as the John Lesley farm, a tract of 120 acres, which he bought in 1912, and which he has brought to a high

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state of cultivation. He has modernized the home and made other improvements, and devoted himself to the growing of grain and general produce, in addition to which he has had success in the raising of live stock. May 29, 1889, Mr. Schaefer was united in marriage with Aurelia, daughter of Henry and Rose (Schlee) Denhardt, the former of whom died April 27, 1915, and the latter July 5, 1898. There were eight children in the Denhardt family: Aurelia, who is now Mrs. Schaefer; Sophia, who married David Beatty, of Millville, Ohio; Carrie, who is single and resides at Dayton; Belle, the wife of Louis Ryan; Florence, the wife of Orion Williams; Marie, the wife of Lewis Conrad; Clement, who is unmarried; died March, 1909; and William, who died in September, 1918. To Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer there have been born six children: Elizabeth, a graduate of Middletown high school, Lebanon university and Miami colege, Oxford, Ohio, a brilliant young woman who recently received a teacher's life certificate and is now teaching domestic science in the Franklin high school, is single and resides with her parents; Carrie, the wife of Glen Beachler, of Greenbush, Ohio; Esther, who married Gaily Geary, of Middletown; twin sons, Edward and Everett, who were with the American Occupational Army, overseas; and Harry, who remains at home as his father's assistant. Mr. Schaefer is a Democrat in his political views, but has not been a seeker for public office. He and Mrs. Schaefer, with their children, belong to the United Brethren church. Both Everett and Edward have returned from over seas and are at home with their parents. Robert is a grandson, the son of Glen and Carrie Beachler and is a stury young chap of one year.

Solomon Schatzel. For many years the late Solomon Schatzel was one of the highly respected citizens and successful farmers of Union township. He was known to almost everyone, setting an example of industry and thrift that made possible the rearing of his children in comfort and preparing them for future usefulness, and in every way performing the quiet, every day duties of life with sincerity and efficiency. Mr. Schatzel was born in Baden, Germany, July 27, 1852, and had such school and other opportunities as the small farmer's son then enjoyed in that country. In the hope of better things he came to the United States in young manhood, finding work as a farm hand in the neighborhood of Evendale, Ohio, performing his tasks so well that as long as he remained there, some nine years, his services were in demand. Mr. Schatzel came then to Union township, Butler county, where he bought 105 acres of land, to which he later added three acres, and to the development and improvement of his farm he devoted himself mainly until the time of his death, which occurred December 11, 1916. In 1881 he married Louise, daughter of Peter and Frances Zimmer. She was born at Reading, in Hamilton county, Ohio, but her parents were of German birth. They were married in their native land, shortly afterward coming to the United States. The father was a farmer in Hamilton county during the rest of his life. The mother of Mrs. Schatzel is still living, having reached the age of ninety-three years and is, in all probability, the oldest member of the Catholic church

at Reading. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schatzel, and the following survive: Frank, who married Barbara Herberth and they have six children, Mary, Herbert, William, John, George and Robert J.; Joseph, who married Julia Persley; William, who married Anna Bloomer and they have three children, Clara, Dorothy and Albert; Albert, who married Gertrude Molder, and they have one daughter, Helen; Amelia, who married Louis Bitner, and they have three children, Frank, Harry and Alma; Emma, who married Robert Vetter, who died October 14, 1919; and Louise, who lives at home and assists her brothers in carrying on the farm industries. The Schatzel family is a representative one in Union township.

John George Schauer. During the time that he was engaged in business at Middletown, from 1910 to 1919, John George Schauer succeeded in impressing himself upon the people of that locality as a straightforward and honorable business man. In his present capacity, as a dealer in automobiles and accessories, he has built up a splendid business at Dayton and has maintained the reputation of the Schauer name, established a number of years ago at Dayton. Mr. Schauer was born at Dayton, a son of the elder John George Schauer, who was for many years successfully engaged in the grocery business in the Gem City. The father was a man who formed connections of business importance through his good judgment and integrity, and who was personally admired for his many admirable traits of character. John G. Schauer the younger was educated in the public schools of Dayton, and about 1910 removed to Middletown to engage in the wholesale liquor business, his establishment being located on Main street. He was found to be honorable, trustworthy and aboveboard in all his transactions and was generally accepted as a man of good character and a desirable citizen. In the late summer of 1919 he returned to his home city of Dayton, where he has since prospered greatly in the proprietorship of an automobile business on Jefferson street. He is essentially and primarily a business man, and has only a good citizen's interest in matters other than those pertaining to his own affairs, but has several lodge connections and is popular with those who know him. He married a teacher in the public schools of Dayton, and they are the parents of two bright and interesting children, a son and a daughter.

Edward Scheering, the proprietor of a mill at Shandon, Ohio, was born October 13, 1872, on his father's farm in Hamilton county, Ohio. He is a son of John and Catherine (Weik) Scheering, who were natives of Germany, the former coming from Wortenburg with his parents and settling in Hamilton county with them. The latter also settled with her parents in the same county. John took up farming in Colerain township and later bought a farm in Crosby township, near the Butler county line. This farm originally comprised ninety-two acres but such was Mr. Scheering's success, that in 1882 he bought an adjoining farm of ninety acres and made many improvements that greatly enhanced its value. To John and Catherine Scheering were born nine children; Charles, deceased, his widow, Minnie Scheering, surviving him; Lizzie, married Thomas Shroyer, of Venice, Ohio, now retired; Jacob, John and Amelia, still

farming the old homestead; George, married Julia Molten and bought a part of the home place and is farming it; Rosie, married John Schradin, a merchant at Shandon, Ohio; Kate, deceased, married Fred Walthers; and Edward, the subject of this sketch; he received his education in the local schools and lived at home until the age of twenty-five. In 1897 he married Miss Eliza Pottenger of New Baltimore, Ohio, a daughter of Thomas and Hannah Pottenger, the former a farmer who retired from business and died May, 1919, in California, where his widow still resides. Mr. Scheering farmed near New Baltimore until 1916 when he came to Shandon and built the Shandon flour and feed mill known as Shandon Milling company. He does an extensive business in custom grinding as well as buying and grinding a considerable amount of grain. He has two brands of flour on the market, Faultless and Flavo, both of which have attained great local popularity. Deliveries are made to nearby towns by auto truck. He takes active interest in matters of public concern and gave excellent service as a member of the schoolboard for about twelve years. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, tending towards the liberal wing of that body. He and his family were members of the United Brethren church at New Haven, Ohio, but are now connected with Congregational church at Shandon. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Scheering: Walter Spencer, the eldest son, attends the University of Cincinnati where he is studying to become an electrical engineer. He is a graduate of Okeana High school and spent a year and a half in California where he took a business course and graduated from The Hollman Business college; Claude E., graduate of Shandon High school, class of 1919, is now associated with his father in business; Myrtle Ruth, now in attendance at the Shandon High school.

H. D. Schell, M. D. Although still a comparatively young man, Dr. H. D. Schell, of Hamilton, has made a substantial professional record, and has evinced a marked breadth and versatility in medicine, in business and in civic affairs. His profession comes first in his interest, for he is a physician not only by inclination, training and experience, but also by inheritance. He was born at Hamilton, in 1879, a son of Dr. S. M. Schell, who was a very prominent practitioner of the city and a graduate of the Homeopathic college of Cleveland, Ohio. After practicing at Hamilton all of his life, and attaining a large clientele and an excellent reputation, he died April 27, 1917. The graded and high schools of Hamilton furnished Dr. H. D. Schell with his early education, and following his graduation from Miami university in 1902 he entered Hahnemann Medical college, at Philadelphia, Pa., where he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1906. He next served one year at the Homeopathic hospital, at Pittsburg, as an interne, and then returned to Hamilton, where he established himself in practice in association with his father. This professional partnership continued prosperously and congenially until the elder man's death, since which time Dr. H. D. Schell has practiced alone. Doctor Schell possesses marked professional ability and a mind analytical, logical and inductive, and forms his diagnoses with a force and sureness that shows a complete

mastery of his calling and a mind trained in the severest school of investigation, wherein close reasoning has become habitual and easy. In twelve years his practice has increased to extensive and gratifying proportions, and he occupies a recognized place among the leaders of his profession, being a member of the Butler County Medical society, the Homeopathic Medical society of Ohio, the American Institute of Homeopathy and the American Association of Medico-Physical Research. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, also a member of the Phi Alpha Gamma medical fraternity, and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is a Knight Templar Mason. November 1, 1918, Doctor Schell was commissioned a first lieutenant in the United States Army Medical Corps, at Greenville, S. C., and was assigned to the 89th Infantry, with which he served until receiving his honorable discharge, February 1, 1919.

Aaron L. Schenck. If good citizenship, steady industry and high principles form the basis for an individual's claim upon the esteem and good-will of his fellow-citizens, then the high esteem and respect in which Aaron L. Schenck is held by the people of the Trenton community are well-merited. During the long period in which he has made his home in Butler county he has exhibited a commendable desire to perform conscientiously and well the responsibilities devolving upon him, whether as citizen, agriculturist or neighbor, and the standing and prosperity which he enjoys have come to him as a reward for his well-directed and self-reliant efforts. Mr. Schenck was born on a farm in Butler county, Ohio, October 31, 1869, a son of James M. and Maria Schenck, a sketch of whose careers will be found elsewhere in this work in the review of James P. Schenck, a brother of Aaron L. Schenck. His mother died when he was a small child, but he remained with his father, assisting him during vacation periods, while he attended the Shiloh school in Wayne township until he reached the age of about seventeen years. Some time after he had attained his majority he left home and purchased a farm in Madison township, where he began operations on his own account, and shortly before becoming twenty-four years of age, September 24, 1893, was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Barcklow, also of Butler county, who has proved a faithful helpmate and excellent counselor, and is a woman possessed of much refinement, wholesome charm and numerous graces. To this union there came four children: Raymond J., a carpenter of Trenton, who married Anna Young; Aaron H., who works his father's farm, who married Pauline Fautz and has two children, Anna and Clara Louise; Mary M., a young woman of many accomplishments, who resides with her parents; and Roy V., a carpenter at Trenton, who married Helen Gray and has one child, Homer. The children all attended the public schools and were reared to habits of industry, honesty and sobriety, so that they have grown up to be a credit to their name, their rearing and their communities. Aaron L. Schenck continued to be actively engaged in Madison township farming until 1918, at which time he decided to shift some of the responsibilities of hard labor to younger shoulders, and went into semi-retirement,

AARON L. SCHENCK AND FAMILY

JAMES P. SCHENCK AND FAMILY

settling on a small tract of thirty-two acres, which he had purchased at the city limits of Trenton. Here he has remodeled all the buildings and made numerous other improvements, and has a commodious and attractive home, with all modern conveniences and comforts. He is a man of high principles, whose business and personal record is an open book, and who, during his sojourn in Butler county, has gained and retained numerous friendships. He is a Mason and belongs to Council 286, J. O. U. A. M., while his political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has always been a supporter of religious, charitable and educational movements, and in civic matters has been found backing enterprises which have had constructive advancement as their object.

James P. Schenck. In the community of West Middletown, the industry of general agriculture has a worthy representative in the person of James P. Schenck, whose operations here have covered a period of many years. He comes of an agricultural family and was born in Butler county, O., a son of James M. and Maria Jane (Brelsford) Schenck, who were well-known early settlers of this part of the Miami valley, where they rounded out their lives in the pursuits of farming. James P. Schenck was given his educational training in the district schools of his native locality, and was brought up to hard work and habits of integrity and honesty, dividing his time between attending school in the winter terms and assisting his father during the summer months. When he entered upon his independent career he adopted farming as his means of livelihood, and has continued as a general farmer to the present time, being now the owner of a property consisting of 166 acres. This he has brought to a high state of cultivation through intelligent development and the use of modern methods, and his operations have been made successful through wise management and taking advantage of the opportunities offered through the invention and development of power from machinery. He has a good set of substantial and attractive buildings, and the farm is a model one in every way. Mr. Schenck was married June 14, 1894, to Mary Elizabeth Smith, daughter of John and Susan (Weikel) Smith, and they have had two children: Carrie Marie, now deceased; and Willard F., who resides at home and assists his father in operating the farm. Willard F. Schenck married Miss Marie Alma Neal, daughter of James and Sarah (Weith) Neal, of Sidney, O., and to them was born, June 27, 1919, a daughter, Elizabeth Frances. James P. Schenck is a Democrat, but has taken little part in politics. However, he shows his public spirit when occasion offers, and is accounted one of his community's helpful and reliable citizens.

John Andrew Schirm. Any list of the prosperous and highly esteemed agriculturists of Butler county would be incomplete that did not contain the name of John Andrew Schirm, who is engaged in extensive operations in Lemon township. He was born in the vicinity of his present home, September 11, 1864, and has passed his entire life here, so that the esteem in which he is held is the result of long acquaintance on the part of his fellow-citizens. The father of

Mr. Schirm was John George Schirm, who was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 6, 1831, and received his education in his native land, where he grew to young manhood. Desiring to substantiate personally the stories which he had heard regarding the opportunities offered by America for the achievement of success by the ambitious, he emigrated to this country on a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of fifty-six days arrived at Baltimore, Md. After a short stay at that place, he made his way to Middletown, where he arrived July 23, 1856, and there met and married Barbara Nichol, also a native of Bavaria, who had come to Middletown with her parents and whom he had known from her birth. John George Schirm, in addition to having been a farmer, had worked in a flour mill in Bavaria, and learned the paper-making trade and is today one of the oldest paper-makers in the state of Ohio. For about one year after his arrival he worked in a broom-corn field, then took up his trade paper-making with the firm of Oglesbee & Barnitz, and subsequently for Abe Harding. With the latter he remained for a period of twenty-one years, during which time he lost from his work only eleven days. He also conducted the Excello paper mill for a time, but in 1878 purchased the farm in Lemon township now operated by his son. This consisted originally of 109 acres, to which Mr. Schirm added ten acres, while his son has since added thirty acres more. He continued as an agriculturist until 1903, in which year he retired, and lived quietly, enjoying the well-won fruits of his long and industrious career until his death May 17, 1919. Mr. Schirm was a Democrat, and he and his wife, who died on the farm, attended the Lutheran church. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Schirm: Maggie, who married William Flinspach and lives in Warren county; John Andrew; John W., a carpenter of Middletown, who married Mollie Metzler; and George, who died at the age of eighteen years. John Andrew Schirm attended the public schools of Amanda, O., and lived at home until his marriage, in February, 1889, to Mary Wagner, of New York state, a daughter of Peter and Caroline (Keller) Wagner. The parents of Mrs. Schirm were born in Germany and came to the United States in 1861, and to Middletown, O., in 1869. Mr. Wagner spent the rest of his life as a farmer, and died in 1891, while his widow still survives at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner were the parents of five children: Mary; Fred, of Battle Creek, Mich.; Lizzie, who married Bert Davis, of Dayton, Barbara, who married Jacob Kirschbaum, of Middletown; and George, also of that place. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schirm: Carl Frederick, a mail carrier of Middletown, who married Lena Stuckcard and has three children: Alice Marie, Esther Louise and Mary Elizabeth; Roy, who died in infancy; Firman Richard, who is assisting his father in his farming operations; and Anna Margaret, who died at the age of sixteen years. After his marriage Mr. Schirm spent four years on the home farm, and then for eleven years was a paper maker in the Tytus mills at Middletown. His career in this direction was cut short when he met with a serious accident in the fall

MR. AND MRS. JOHN A. SCHIRM

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of an elevator at the plant, and he was forced to seek other employment. It was natural that he should resume farming, and since then has carried on successful operations on the home property in Lemon township. This has been improved with good equipment and attractive structures, and the home is the highest dwelling in Butler county, being 880 feet above the sea level. Mr. Schirm is a general farmer, and in addition to growing the standard crops of the locality, has Jersey cattle and sells his cream at Middletown; and also has a successful business in raising Poland China hogs and work horses. His reputation as an industrious man of sound business integrity is an excellent one. Mr. Schirm is an independent voter, and takes a great deal of interest in the work of the Lutheran church, of which he and Mrs. Schirm are members at Middletown. The family is widely known in Butler county, where its members have numerous friends.

Julius William Schmidt. A progressive farmer of Liberty township has demonstrated what can be accomplished on the farm by the man who applies himself perseveringly and industriously. His 112-acre tract in Liberty township, Butler county, O., operated less than two years, is recognized as one of the really desirable holdings in that locality, and despite the comparatively brief period that he has been operating this farm Mr. Schmidt has achieved results even beyond his fondest expectations. He was born March 31, 1876, the son of Wilhelm and Ledia Schmidt, both natives of Germany who came to the United States about 1871, and located in Cincinnati. The father worked at the upholstering and harness making trade in the latter city about eleven years, when he returned to Germany and remained there until 1890, coming back to this country and locating in Hamilton, Ohio, and associating himself with his son, Julius William, who had established a prosperous butcher business in that city. Besides the latter, who was the youngest, there were two other children in this family: Edward and Emma. Although born in this country, Julius William Schmidt received his education in Germany, having accompanied his father at the age of six years when the latter returned to the fatherland. However, his favorable impressions in childhood of the opportunities that the United States afforded for the wide-awake young man prompted him, when eighteen years of age, to return to this country with his parent, the two locating in Cincinnati. Julius William obtained employment with the George Suyler Packing company at that place and continued with this concern four years, when he went to St. Louis, Mo., and worked in a sausage factory two years. In 1900, he went to Hamilton and engaged in the butcher business at Eighth and Walnut streets. Remaining at this stand for a short period he located at 748 Eastern avenue and conducted a meat market there for eighteen years with the greatest success. Incidentally, it might be stated that each succeeding business venture in which he was involved proved more profitable than the preceding one and he retired from this business to undertake farming with the best wishes of multitudes. The present farm he is occupying and which he is improving at great expense, was purchased by him thirteen years ago. He took

up his abode there in February, 1918, he having married in 1900 Elizabeth Wolf, an accomplished young lady of Butler county. To this couple has been born one child, Frieda.

Frederick Schneider. The career of Frederick Schneider is an expression of well-directed and intelligent industry, of devotion to the best interests of the community, and promotion of the best tenets of commercial life. His financial standing is indicated by the possession of a flourishing grocery business and other important and valuable holdings at Hamilton, and his citizenship is evidenced by the manner in which he has supported worthy movements for the general welfare. Mr. Schneider was born at Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, March 20, 1850, a son of William and Margaret (Dingfelder) Schneider, the former of whom died at Cincinnati during the cholera epidemic of 1849. His father having died before his birth, Frederick Schneider's boyhood was filled with hard work, and his education was confined to attendance at the public schools, semi-occasionally, until he reached the age of twelve years. At that time he went to Cincinnati and secured employment for seven months in Greenwood's foundry, where his brother-in-law was a foreman, but he then resigned from that position and in April, 1863, entered the printing office of the Hamilton Telegraph, then owned by Fred Engry. There he learned the trade of printer, at which he subsequently worked as a journeyman and foreman and held the latter position from his eighteenth year onward. In 1889, with Charles Zwick and Albert Dix, he purchased the Hamilton Daily News from C. M. Campbell, and the Hamilton Telegraph, but a few years later disposed of his interest in this business. May 9, 1871, he was united in marriage with Anna Christena Sippel, and to this union there were born four children: Bertha Wilhelmina Jeannette, who died in infancy; Frederick Leroy, a machinist of Dayton, who is married and has one child; Dr. Edgar Bertram, a prominent practicing physician and surgeon of Norwood, Ohio, who is married and has two children; and Carl Aquila, who is married and has one son. Mrs. Schneider died October 20, 1884, at the age of thirty-five years, and Mr. Schneider was married December 10, 1885, to Louisa Wilhelmina Holle, daughter of William and Sophia Holle, at Mount Healthy, Hamilton county, Ohio. Four children were born to this union: Bertha Louise and Mabel Louisa, who died in infancy; Ruth Marguerite, who is single and resides with her parents; and Holle Herbert, who was attending the Ohio State university when called into the World war service, and was overseas in France with the 24th Balloon Company until August 12, 1919, when he was discharged from the army and is now connected with the Daily News, as solicitor, etc. Mr. Schneider joined the German Methodist Episcopal church at the age of eleven years, and has held every office within the gift of the congregation. He was only nineteen years old when he was first elected superintendent of the Sunday school, an office which he has held off and on throughout his life, or for about twenty-five years. Also, when he was about nineteen years of age, he was licensed as an exhorter and a few years later received license from his presiding elder as a local preacher,

and served in this capacity at Mount Healthy, Ohio, and Richmond, Ind., as well as in the city of his birth, the other two places having at times been connected with the Hamilton charge. In 1884, after the death of his first wife, Mr. Schneider received an urgent invitation from a number of prominent citizens to take charge of the only German Protestant church in Connersville, Ind., but felt it his duty to decline. Shortly after his appointment as a local preacher he was examined by his presiding elder, Rev. Jacob Rothweiler, who intended sending him out to work in the Conference. He was compelled to decline this offer also, owing to the reluctance of Mrs. Schneider to accept the work of an itinerant's wife, but his license as a local preacher has been renewed annually since his first appointment and almost every time it has been done by a unanimous vote of his brethren who are members of the Quarterly Conference. In 1908, Mr. Schneider entered the grocery business at Hamilton, purchasing a store and stock at No. 1001 Heaton street, formerly owned by the Misses Webb and Young. He has been in the same business at that location ever since, and during the great flood of 1913 suffered a loss of approximately $500. His business is on a substantial and paying basis, and his standing in commercial circles is an excellent one, due to the high principles which he has ever upheld and maintained. The pleasant and attractive Schneider home is situated at No. 954 Heaton street.

George C. Schoenberger. There are not many better improved farms in Union township, Butler county, than that of George C. Schoenberger, who is one of Butler county's substantial and representative men. He was born in Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, July 31, 1853, son of Conrad and Christina Schoenberger. They were born in Germany. When they came to the United States they married and settled in the city of Cincinnati. The father was a man of great industry and as he had had experience with cattle, he was there made superintendent of cattle feeding in connection with a distillery plant. The parents died in that city. Of their five children, two are dead. They were Mrs. John Lindner and Mrs. Lenard Lindner; three are living, namely: Joseph P., who is a retired railroad engineer and lives in Cincinnati, is accorded the highest record as a first-class engineer on B. & O. R. R., having been in the employ of this company for over fifty years, during which time he never had an accident, neither was he the cause of injury to any one; John, who is also active in his agricultural industries and lives at Glendale, Ohio, and George C. George C. Schoenberger attended school at Cincinnati, then learned the brick making trade, working during the summers at his trade and during the winter seasons was clerk in a grocery store. For twelve years he worked for a brick contractor, during the last four years being superintendent of the yards. He then embarked in the grocery and market business, which he carried on for three years, at the end of that time selling out in order to move into the country and satisfy his desire for an agricultural life. He located on what is his present valuable farm, a property he rented for twenty-seven years from his father-in-law, George Lindner, then purchased. He has 108 acres, all richly cultivated and

well improved, all the farm buildings being of substantial construction and the modern residence exceedingly comfortable. Mr. Schoenberger continued active in his agricultural industries and has been doing agricultural work for the Agricultural Department of Washington for many years, until 1919, when he retired. He married Abbie, daughter of George Lindner, March 21, 1876, and five of their family of children are living, as follows: Emma, who is the wife of Casper Bedeacht, who has been a rural mail carrier for seventeen years and is now carrying on the farm, they have three children, Alverta, Casper and Ruth; Veit George, who is treasurer of the Cincinnati Enquirer company, and who lives at Glendale, Ohio, married Emma Buck and they have two children, Evelyn and Rogers; William, who is a foreman at the Hooven Owens & Rentschler foundry at Hamilton, Ohio, married Bertha Myers and they have two children, Wayne and Don; Lillian, who is the wife of George Eckart, and who lives at Columbus, Ohio, at the present time; Erma, who is the wife of Rastus Streifthaw, they have one son, Earl, and they live at Middletown, Ohio; the second child, Maggie, died at the age of thirty-six years. Mr. Schoenberger and his family belong to the Lutheran church. In all his business relations, Mr. Schoenberger has been honorable and upright, a man of his word, and Union township testified to the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens by keeping him a member of the school board for seventeen years.

Charles Schraub, who is a substantial general farmer of Butler county, Ohio, has prospered in his undertakings because he has been industrious and careful, as he began with very small capital, from early youth having had to depend on his own efforts. He was born September 19, 1859, son of John and Anna (Kelser) Schraub, who were married at Trenton, Ohio, in 1857. Mr. Schraub has two sisters and one brother, namely: Mary, who is the wife of Jack Kinney; Anna, who is the wife of Charles Schenck; and Henry, who married Anna Bittner. The father was a blacksmith by trade, an honest, hard-working man, but he was not able to give his children much assistance as they grew up, and as soon as Charles had completed his period of school attendance, he started out for himself. For about fifteen years he worked at different things, mainly at or in the vicinity of Middletown, then decided to become a farmer. It was not easy at first, although he had selected land with good judgment, but he was industrious, frugal and enterprising and in a short time, comparatively speaking, had his farm of fifty-five acres well stocked and under a good state of cultivation, with no debts to discourage him. Mr. Schraub has made the cultivation of his farm and the careful rearing of his family the important things of his life and he has done well. He married Catherine Hess, daughter of William and Catherine (Smith) Hess, whose other children were as follows: Martin, Henry, Lewis, William, Carrie, wife of Scott Davis, Lizzie, wife of Tony Murs, and Sophia, wife of Michael Riley. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schraub, namely: Alma, Raymond W., Louise, Mary Virtue, and Helen Catherine. Of these all are living except Alma. During the World war, Ray-

mond W. served in the aviation department. Louise is the wife of Clarence Gingerich. All the children have been given educational opportunities far better than their parents ever enjoyed and the youngest daughters are students at present in the Middletown High school. The farm home of the family is a fine modern residence equipped with many comforts and conveniences. Mr. Schraub has never accepted any public office except in relation to the schools, for the past twelve years serving as school director in his district, and taking pride in the maintenance of high standards.

John L. Schueller, foreman of the sheet metal department, American Rolling Mill company, the son of Wolfsgang and Mary Magdalina (Hubber) Schueller, was born January 6, 1859. His parents were married at Baltimore, afterwards settled in Ceredo, W. Va., then went to Ironton, Ohio. There were eight children in the family, three died in infancy, four reached maturity: Frank, deceased; Anna, Mrs. Calvin Christian, deceased; John, the subject of this sketch; Mary Magdelina Schueller, Cincinnati; Willie, deceased. Mr. Schueller is in every respect an absolutely self-made man. When a lad of only twelve years at Ironton, Ohio, he lost his parents, and was thus thrown upon his own resources. Undaunted he faced the situation, and determined to overcome the obstacles and win out. He began by working on a farm, digging coal—through many years heroic effort was required and made. For thirty-five years he has been associated with the American Rolling Mill company. He was with the plant in Cincinnati before it came to Middletown, nineteen years ago. Many discouragements were met and overcome. Step by step he has worked himself up until he now holds the responsible position already noted in this article. Mr. Schueller married Sophia Rosa Conrad in Cincinnati, September 22, 1881. This marriage resulted in the birth of six children: Cora, deceased; Frederick Ludwig, Charles William, George Edward, Howard Lee, Hazel Agnes (Mrs. Walter Byron Hadley). Mrs. Hadley has one child, Virginia Lou. Howard Lee enlisted May 10, 1918, at Cincinnati and was sent to Newport, R. I., as a line electrical general; spent five months in military training at that place and was transferred to Hampton Roads Electrical school August 31; remained there fifteen weeks and on February 18, 1919, was discharged. George Edward was drafted at Springfield, Mass., in the 320th Field Artillery, Battery A, 82d Division; went over to France June 6, from Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga. Fred is stock clerk at the American Rolling Mill company and married Lou Johnson. They have two children: Dorothy Lou and Carl William. Charles is shipping clerk at the American Rolling Mill company, and resides at home with his parents. The family occupies its own beautiful home on 11th street, in which contentment and happiness reign. Politically, Mr. Schueller gives allegiance to the Republican party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belongs also to the Junior Order United American Mechanics.

Andrew Schul. Investigation reveals that many of the most prosperous and influential agriculturists of the United States were born in foreign lands. The opportunities that the fertile fields of

the United States hold out to the newcomer to our shores are such that he can scarcely overlook the advantages of identifying himself with the farming industry of this country with the result that the history of the various states shows that the agriculturists of foreign birth have not only been among the most energetic tillers of the soil, but they have also been the most esteemed citizens. This applies most admirably to Andrew Schul, retired agriculturist of Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, who is now rounding out a life of almost seventy useful years, respected by his neighbors and admired for the good that he has done for the community. Always solicitious for the welfare of those who have been associated with him in developing his land holdings as well as endeavoring at all times to make his activities of the greatest value to the community, he acquired by his own industry and perseverance sufficient of this world's goods to make his later years the happiest of his long and useful life. Born in Hessen Darmstadt, Germany, October 10, 1850, he was the youngest of six children of Henry and Anna Schul, five of whom came to this country in 1864 with their mother, the father having died in Germany. These children were: George, Elizabeth, Katherine, Margaret and Andrew. The father was of that sturdy type of German so familiar to those conversant with the agricultural achievements of Germany, and the mother exercised a control over her children after the death of her husband which resulted in all of them growing to maturity mindful of the fact that they were fortunate in having the watchfulness and care of such a devoted mother. She passed away consoled by the fact that her offspring had been started well on their way to useful American citizenship and that they were well prepared, both by training and native ingenuity, to make their own way in the world. Receiving his schooling in Germany Andrew Schul was but fourteen years of age when he arrived in the United States with his mother and sisters. Always energetic and of the type of youths who are determined to employ their industry in the line of endeavor best suited to their talents he early saw the possibilities of success in farming and accordingly obtained employment as a farm hand in Butler county, taking advantage of every opportunity to familiarize himself with the future opportunities for success in this locality. He practiced the most rigid economies and thereby saved sufficient money to rent a farm, in the meantime taking as his wife, Miss Mary Katherine Berk, daughter of Fred Berk, who was prominent in the agricultural activities of Butler county. To this couple six children were born: Frederick W., who married Catharine Stahlhaber, they being the parents of three children, Gordon, Esther and Helen; George, husband of Ida Weigler, and father of two children, William and Howard; Martin, who married Ellen Storms, this couple having two Children, Mabel and Roy Andrew; Carl A., who is single and lives with his parents; Homer, husband of Hazel Vineage, and father of three children, Gertrude, Donald and Robert E.; and Edith, who is the wife of Andrew Wirtz. Andrew Schul experienced such success with his rented farm that he later purchased the 160-acre tract on which he is now living with his wife and daughter in Fairfield

township. This farm is one of the most improved in that locality, every convenience and accessory that would aid in getting the best returns possible being provided. In addition to his activities on the farm he has been honored by his township with the important post of supervisor and in this capacity acquitted himself most creditably; and also served on the school board. He is a Democrat in politics and regular attendant of Zion Lutheran church. Fred Berk, father of Andrew Schul's wife, was one of the most prominent men in Butler county. He was a blacksmith by trade and in his time served as a county commissioner. He was the father of six children, five of whom are living. They are, besides, Mrs. Schul—Henry, William, Lena and Elizabeth.

Louis Schuler is conducting successful operations on one of the model farms of Ross township, Butler county, where he has a well-improved place of sixty-five acres, near the village of Venice, the place of his nativity. A man of fine intellectuality and progressive policies in his farm enterprise, Mr. Schuler has secure vantage-ground as one of the representative agriculturists of his native county, where previously he had gained splendid reputation through his service in the pedagogic profession. He is a member of one of the well known and highly honored families of Butler county, and thus is emphasized the consistency of according him recognition in this history of the Miami valley. Mr. Schuler was born in Ross township, Butler county, April 4, 1873, and is a son of Philip and Susan (Stoffel) Schuler, who were born in Germany and whose marriage was solemnized in Butler county, Ohio. The names of their children are here recorded in respective order of birth: Otto, Anna, Edith, Albert, Jacob and Louis. The parents continued their residence in Ross township until their death, and their remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Venice, the father having long been numbered among the influential and honored citizens of Ross township. Louis Schuler found his boyhood and early youth compassed by the invigorating influence of country life, and in addition to receiving the advantages of the public schools of Venice, he was a student in the Ohio State University at Columbus. He put his academic attainments to practical test and utilization by entering the pedagogic profession, in which his popularity was equaled by his unequivocal success. He taught in the district schools of his home county, where also he held for some time the position of superintendent of the Venice High school. He has continued to take lively interest in educational work, and has given effective service as a member of the Butler County Board of School Examiners. While engaged in teaching Mr. Schuler continued his allegiance to agricultural enterprise in his native county, and since his marriage, in 1904, he has given his attention primarily to the management and general operation of the farm, in which connection he brings to bear scientific and progressive methods and policies, so that he receives good returns from his agricultural industry, which he has so directed as to make it of somewhat intensive order—that is, has demanded maximum production from every cultivated acre. During the cli-

macteric period of the World war Mr. Schuler was one of the most active and influential workers in his township in support of the various war-support activities of the government. He was in charge of the Liberty loan drives in Ross township, as well as of all other campaigns for enlisting the financial support of the people of the township, which made an admirable record by going "over the top" on each of the historic drives. Howard Carroll, nephew of Mr. Schuler, has furthered the pedagogic prestige of the family through his service as a teacher in the public schools, and is now superintendent of the public schools at Mason, Ohio. In politics Mr. Schuler gives his allegiance to the Democratic party. The year 1904 recorded the marriage of Mr. Schuler to Miss Carrie Lewis, daughter of Gilbert and Mary (Bell) Lewis, whose remains rest in the cemetery at Oxford, this state, Mrs. Lewis having been a graduate of Oxford Female seminary. Captain Andrew J. and Robert Lewis, uncles of Mrs. Schuler, represented Ohio as gallant soldiers of the Union in the Civil war. Gilbert and Mary Lewis became the parents of six children—Hattie, deceased; Frank, Eugene, Carrie, Mrs. Schuler; Cora, wife of Glen Calkins; and Andrew. Mr. and Mrs. Schuler are popular factors in the representative social activities of their home community, and have a wide circle of friends in Butler and Hamilton counties.

William A. Schuyler, carpenter superintendent of the Middletown plant of the American Rolling Mill company, has been a resident of Middletown since 1914, during which time he has impressed himself upon the people of this community as a reliable and substantial citizen and has gained and held the good-will of the men associated with him at the big industrial plant. He comes of Holland ancestry and was born at Blanchester, Ohio, April 23, 1871, a son of William and Rebecca (Laymon) Schuyler. His father served three years as a Union soldier during the war between the North and the South, died in 1914, while his mother passed away April 23, 1911, within four miles of the place of her birth in Clermont county. In the family there were four children: William A.; Leo L.; Jerry M.; and Mrs. Joe Kowalski, the wife of a Chicago pharmacist. William A. Schuyler was educated in the public schools of Blanchester, and as a youth learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed in the vicinity of his native place until 1900, when he went to Dayton, and April 6, 1914, came to Middletown to accept the position of superintendent of carpenter work at the American Rolling Mill company's plant. This post he occupied until 1919, and, being a conscientious and just man, he not only won the approval of his employers, but made an ideal superintendent, gaining and holding the confidence and good-will of the men under his charge. He is a man of much intellect, a profound thinker and a deep and discriminating reader, and in his pleasant home on Moore street has a large and well-chosen library. He is liberal in his political views and fraternizes with the Knights of Pythias, and, with his family, belongs to the United Brethren church. June 20, 1892, Mr. Schuyler married Stella, daughter of William and Mary (Simpson) Joslin, of Warren county, Ohio, the former of whom

died in a railroad accident when Mrs. Schuyler was a mere child. She has three sisters: Ellen, the wife of M. Long, of Middletown; Prudy, the wife of R. Lyons, also of this place; and Rena, the wife of William Evans, of Loveland, Ohio. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler: Ethel, the wife of George Chambers, of Brookville, Ohio, the former home of the Schuyler family; Cecil, the wife of Robert Stewart, of Middletown; and Harold, Clarence, Gerald, Leonard and Dorothy, who resides with their parents in the Moore street home, and Roy, who died in 1896.

Arthur Lee Schwab. The farming element is very strong in Butler county, for this is essentially an agricultural locality, both soil and climatic conditions making it a good place for general farming. This holds true in Ross township, where many finely cultivated properties are to be found, among them the old Schwab farm, the owner of which is one of the industrious and energetic young agriculturists of this region, Arthur Lee Schwab. Mr. Schwab was born on the William Cochran farm in Ross township, October 18, 1883, a son of George and Mary (Smith) Schwab, a review of whom will be found in the sketch of Charles A. Schwab, another son of this worthy couple, elsewhere in this volume. Arthur L. Schwab was educated in the schools of Millville and after completing his studies began farming for his father, continuing to be thus occupied until his marriage in 1907, to Edna Louisa, daughter of Joseph and Laura (Mehl) Condon, residents of Fairfield township, who had two other children: Ora, who married Grace Withrow, and Carl, who died October 29, 1918. After his marriage Mr. Schwab began farming operations in the vicinity of Millville, but later moved to the old Condon farm in Fairfield township, Butler county. Recently, through purchase from the heirs, he acquired the old Schwab place in Ross township, and here is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising. Still a young man in years, Mr. Schwab is old in experience in his work, and justly proud of what he has been able to accomplish. He is interested in the advancement of his locality and lends his aid to worthy movements, but has not thought of office or other matters that would take him away from his chosen work of tilling the soil. In politics he supports Democratic principles and he and his family are members of the German Reformed church. He and Mrs. Schwab are the parents of three children: Laura Marie, George J. and Arthur Lee, jr.

Charles A. Schwab, a prominent and up-to-date farmer of Ross township, Butler county, a son of George and Mary (Smith) Schwab, was born in Hanover township, February 2, 1879. His father, George Schwab, was born in Ross township, and his mother was born in Hanover township. George Schwab settled in Ross township after his marriage, and two years later moved to Hanover township, thence again to Ross township. Their children were: Jesse E., who married Edith Weikel; Charles A.; Helen E., unmarried; Arthur L., who married Edna Condon, of Ross township. Charles Schwab was educated in the schools of Millville and St. Charles. After finishing school, he took up farming and in 1908

he was married to Catherine Angst, daughter of Henry and Margaret (Fessil) Angst, and lived for five years in the residence now occupied by his brother Arthur; subsequently he purchased the old Angst homestead to which he removed. To Henry Angst and his wife these children were born: Clara, Louise, Edward, Amelia, now Mrs. Harry Wiesmeyer; Catherine, Mathilda, and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Schwab are the parents of three children: Eleanor, Melvin and Curtis. The family are members of the Reformed church at Millville. He is a Democrat in politics, and during the recent war was prominently active in all patriotic work.

George V. Schwartz. The dexterous manipulation of the chisel has at all times commanded a liberal share of wonder and admiration; it has preserved to us the beauty of antiquity, has marked the resting place of our dearest and most beloved friends, and has made the home of their mortal remains a garden of art and loveliness; it has also contributed largely to the beautifying of our cities, the adornment of our public parks, and to the perpetuating of the memory of the great and good. In this connection is presented a brief sketch of the career of George V. Schwartz, proprietor of the monument business at Heaton and Miami streets, Hamilton, who as a born carver in stone and marble has earned his way to success and recognition. Mr. Schwartz was born at Lebanon, O., in 1875, a son of Jacob Schwartz. The father was a native of Germany, where he learned the marble cutting trade and developed into a most accomplished workman, but when still a youth ran away from home and emigrated to the United States, his first settlement being at Hamilton, whence he subsequently removed to Dayton. Later he went to Lebanon, where he established himself in the monument business, and during forty-five years of honorable and upright business dealings not only built up a substantial commercial structure but also established himself strongly in the confidence, respect and good will of his fellow-citizens. When he died, in 1902, at the age of seventy-one years, business and civic affairs lost one whose interest in their progress had always been keen and whose activities therein had always been constructive. Mr. Schwartz married Barbara Dahler, also born in Germany, who died at the age of sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz were members of St. Francis Catholic church. They were the parents of the following children: Charles, who now conducts the original business at Lebanon; Emma, the wife of Henry Plekanpol of Hamilton; Frank, deceased, who was in the marble business at Lebanon for some years; John, a wholesale grocer of Los Angeles, Cal.; Carrie, the wife of C. C. Groff, of Mount Healthy, O.; George V., of this notice; and Louis, deceased. George V. Schwartz was educated in the public schools and so early did he evidence a love for his father's business that he was put to work thereat when he was but ten years of age. His development was rapid and he soon became recognized as one of the most efficient in his line. He became a member of the firm in the business at Lebanon, but the death of his father, in 1902, broke up the family association, and in the following year Mr. Schwartz came to Hamilton, where he

opened his present business, at the corner of Heaton and Miami streets. He has succeeded in the development of a business that is as successful as it is representative; an artist of true genius, his love for the picturesque and beautiful asserts itself in every detail of his business. Mr. Schwartz, in addition to being a business man of the highest integrity, possesses a pleasing and likable personality, and during his residence at Hamilton he has made and kept hosts of friends. He is a member of the Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Knights of Columbus and the Woodmen of the World, and is very popular in all these lodges. In August, 1896, Mr. Schwartz married Miss Kate Sandmann, who was born at Hamilton, O., a daughter of Tony Sandmann, a tailor by trade. Two children have been born to this union: Josephine and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz are consistent members of St. Joseph's Catholic church of Hamilton.

Alexander Lutes Scott, for many years a prominent, influential and successful agriculturist, is now one of the retired colony at Shandon. He is a native of New Haven, Hamilton county, Ohio, born August 15, 1850, a son of William H. and Elizabeth Ann (Lutes) Scott, the former born near Baltimore, Hamilton county, a son of James Scott who came from Scotland. James Scott and his worthy wife were the parents of three other sons: Andrew, Joseph and Henderson. Following their marriage William H. and Elizabeth Scott lived in Hamilton county, where they passed the rest of their lives in the peaceful pursuits of the soil, and when they died, honored and respected, were laid to rest in the Harrison cemetery. They were the parents of the following children: Alexander L.; James A., deceased; Andrew Jay; Miranda, deceased; Bertha, who is the wife of John Gerlaugh, of Dayton; Anna, deceased; and Azalia, the wife of Dr. John Detweiler, a practicing physician of Uniontown, Pa. After attending the district public schools of his home locality, Alexander Lutes Scott pursued a course at the National Normal school, at Lebanon, in 1868 and 1869. Thus prepared he entered upon an educational career, which lasted, however, only one and one-half years, one year being spent at Middletown and six months at New Haven. He then turned his attention to farming, at first near Union village, in 1876, and later in Indiana. He then purchased a farm in Morgan township, Butler county, and after he had disposed of this property bought a farm of 240 acres, in Ross township, on which he carried on operations in a successful way until his retirement and removal to Shandon, at which time he turned over the active work of the farm to his son. In January, 1876, Mr. Scott was united in marriage with Elizabeth J., daughter of Evan and Anna (Evans) Evans, natives of Butler county, of Welsh descent. In the Evans family there were the following children: William, who fought as a Union soldier during the war between the North and the South; John M., who is living in retirement at his home at Shandon; Dr. Albert C., who practiced medicine until his death; Rev. Spencer, a minister of the Congregational faith; Chester C., a resident of Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Emma Robinson, wife of Doctor Robinson; Cora, the wife of E. Lewis; and Eliza-

beth, the wife of Mr. Scott. To Mr. and Mrs. Scott there have been born five children. Evan Walter, the eldest, after leaving Shandon High school, spent five years at Marietta college and three years at Yale and became a minister of the Congregational church. He was appointed a chaplain in the United States Navy by President Roosevelt and is now serving with the Pacific Fleet, being fleet chaplain. He married Edna Manuel, of Shandon, and has two children, Catherine and Betty Jane. W. E. Scott, second son of Alexander L., was educated at Marietta college and taught school one year at Maryville, Ky., subsequently becoming connected with the Whittaker Paper company of Cincinnati, being at this time general manager of the Chicago branch of this concern. He is unmarried. Heber Ray Scott, third son, was educated at the Ohio State university and is now conducting the operations on his father's farm in Ross township. He married Miss Lenna Feemester, and they have one child, Robert. Anna B., only daughter of Alexander L. Scott, is a graduate of Oberlin, and for a time taught kindergartens at Casselton, N. D. and Mansfield, Ohio. She is now at home with her parents. Hally M. Scott, youngest son and child, is a graduate of Oberlin college and has a degree from the University of Missouri, where he taught two years as a geologist. He will soon have his degree of Ph. D. from the University of Chicago. During the great World war he entered the Meteorological Division of the United States Signal Service, and served as second lieutenant for fourteen months in France. He is now a geologist with the Tulsa Oil company, Tulsa, Okla. The Scott family belongs to the Congregational church. As a voter Mr. Scott supports the Republican party, but has had no inclinations toward a political career or public office, although his father had a seat in the Ohio legislature from Hamilton county shortly after the close of the Civil war.

Frank Fillmore Scott One of the men who own large country properties and superintend their management from comfortable town homes, one who has found pleasure and profit in both farming and merchandising is Frank Fillmore Scott. Mr. Scott, who is the owner of a farm of 178 acres in Ross township, was for thirty-two years engaged in merchandising at Venice, and both as farmer and merchant won not only prosperity but the good will and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. Mr. Scott was born on the site of the present home of Doctor Smith, at Venice, Butler county, Ohio, October 18, 1851, a son of Dr. Francis and Margaret (Dick) Scott. On the maternal side he is a descendant of Col. William Anderson, a Revolutionary soldier, who was a brother of the eminent Judge Ferguson Anderson, of Butler county. Dr. Francis Scott was born in England and was a lad when he accompanied his parents to the United States, the family settling in Muskingum county, Ohio, where he received his early education, this being supplemented by a course at the Medical College of Cincinnati. For some years Doctor Scott practiced at Venice, Ohio, then at Shandon, but eventually turned his attention to farming and passed the closing years of his life in the pursuits of the soil. In his father's family, the other children were: Mathew, William,

James and Ruth. Doctor Scott married Margaret, daughter of George and Jane (Anderson) Dick, residents of Ross township, and Frank Fillmore was the only child born to this union. Doctor and Mrs. Scott are both deceased, the former dying on his Ross township farm, the latter dying in Venice, and both were laid to rest in the cemetery at Venice. Frank Fillmore Scott attended the public schools of his native locality and Miami university, and when he completed his studies took up farming, a vocation which he followed with indifferent success for two years. Possessing an inclination for mercantile pursuits, he and S. E. Moorhead, as Scott & Moorhead, bought Boal Bros. store at Venice, and after four years bought out Mr. Moorhead's interest, he going with Proctor & Gamble as salesman. For thirty-two years he was proprietor of a popular establishment, the trade of which he built up through industry and a policy of honorable treatment, and in this had high standing in business circles and the confidence of the public. He still has numerous business interests, and in addition is the owner of the 178-acre farm in Ross township which formerly belonged to his parents. Mr. Scott was married September 26, 1882, to Jessie Indianola Price of Ottawa, Ill., and they became the parents of three children: Fredrick P. Scott, born October, 1883, died March, 1887; and Shirley, a graduate of high school and of Cincinnati Business college, an excellent young man of splendid reputation and exceptional intelligence, who was called by death March 6, 1906; and Helen Margaret, who attended Miami university and is a graduate of Heidelberg university, Tiffin, Ohio, and Johns Hopkins university as a graduate nurse. Mr. Scott's first wife died November 1, 1895, and he was married March 3, 1902, to Clara M. Elms. To this union there has come one daughter: Anna Maude, born in February, 1903, who is a graduate of high school. Mr. Scott is a Republican in his political views, and has taken an active and helpful part in town and township affairs, having served efficiently and faithfully as treasurer of the turnpike and treasurer of the school board, also as clerk and treasurer of Venice.

John A. Scott, who has long held precedence as one of the representative farmers of Butler county, resides upon a well improved farm, which was owned and developed by his father. This attractive rural home is located near the village of Shandon, from which it receives service on one of the rural mail routes. John Albert Scott was born at Shandon, this county. In January, 1855, and is a son of James and Anna C. (Jones) Scott. James Scott was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, where his father, John Scott, was a pioneer farmer. James Scott represented his native state as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war, and he was twenty-one years of age when he established his residence at Shandon, Butler county, where he engaged in the work of his trade, that of shoemaker. There his marriage was solemnized, and five years later he and his wife removed to the farm now owned and operated by their only son, the subject of this sketch, this being the old homestead of Thomas F. Jones. Mrs. Anna C. (Jones) Scott was a daughter of John C. and Jane Jones, both of whom were born

in Wales, and many of the older residents of Butler county will recall that Mr. Jones numbered among the seven persons who met a tragic death in the collapse of the Congregational church building at Shandon, many years ago. Of the two children of James and Anna C. (Jones) Scott the subject of this sketch is the younger, and his sister, Anna, is the wife of Mark Francis, dean of the veterinary college at College station, Texas, their son Bebb having been one of the gallant young soldiers who served with the American Expeditionary Force in France within the period of the World war, he having been wounded in action, when "going over the top" with his comrades. John Albert Scott received his early education in the public schools at Shandon, and supplemented this by a three months' course in a business college in the city of Cincinnati. Since his marriage he has resided upon and given his progressive management to the old home farm of his parents, the same comprising 120 acres of excellent land and being specially well improved. The substantial and attractive old brick house which he occupies was erected in 1853 and has long stood as one of the landmarks of this part of the county. Mr. Scott is a Republican in his political allegiance and he and his wife are active members of the Congregational church at Shandon. He was active and liberal in the support of the various war drives during the period of the American participation in the great European war, and he has been equally loyal in connection with all things touching the welfare of his home community and native county. Mr. Scott was united in marriage March 16, 1902, to Miss Alma Joyce, who was born and reared in Butler county. She is one of the three children of Andrew and Mary Joyce, who were well known residents of Venice, this county, the other two children being Mary, who is the wife of Benjamin Matson, and Margaret, who is the wife of M. E. Thompson. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have no children, but they delight to extend the hospitality of their pleasant home to the young folk of the community, as well as to their many friends of their own generation.

J. B. Scott, M. D. The dean of the medical profession of Hamilton, Ohio, Dr. J. B. Scott, has been in continuous practice in this city for more than forty-five years. During the greater part of this extended period of time he has occupied an acknowledged place among the most skilled and esteemed physicians of Butler county, where his labors have also tended to advance the interests of morality, education, religion and good citizenship. Doctor Scott was born near Uniontown, Fayette county, Pa., in 1849, a son of Wilson and Anna (Woodward) Scott, his father being a mechanic throughout his life. The early education of Doctor Scott was secured in the country schools of Fayette county, following which he attended the Fayette County Normal school, and for two years was engaged in teaching in the rural districts. Next he read medicine under Dr. G. W. Newcomber, at Collinsville, Pa., and subsequently enrolled as a student at the Physico Medical college of Cincinnati, where he received his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1870. His first locations were at Collinsville and New Salem, but in 1874 took up his residence and established his practice at Ham-

ilton, where he has been engaged in practice ever since, having occupied the same office. He is the oldest physician in point of practice at Hamilton, and also has the distinction of being the oldest member of the Physico Medical society, of which he was president in 1888. He belongs to various other organizations of his profession and is a Republican in his political views. He has been very successful in general practice and surgical work, and it would be difficult to find a man more highly respected or esteemed, or one whose success has been secured by more earnest and conscientious work. Doctor Scott married Addie, daughter of Christian and Lydia (Shortman) Brady, and to this union there have been born two children: Anna, the wife of C. E. Vanderhoof; and Violet Lydia, the wife of Stanley Wirtz, of Hamilton, who has one child, Mary Ann.

C. Edward Sebald holds precedence as one of the representative business men of Middletown and as a scion of one of the old and influential families whose name has been prominently and worthily linked with the annals of Butler county. Mr. Sebald is assistant cashier of the substantial banking house of the Oglesby & Barnitz company, at Middletown, an institution that was founded in 1850; is a member of the board of commissioners of his home city; is secretary and treasurer of the William Sebald Realty company; and is a director of the American Building & Loan association, which has given important service in connection with the civic and material development and upbuilding of Middletown. C. Edward Sebald was born at Middletown, Ohio, August 11, 1866, and is a son of William and Mary E. (Dieg) Sebald, the former of whom was born and reared in Germany and the latter of whom was born at Hamilton, Ohio. William Sebald emigrated to America in the year 1859, and he became eventually one of the leading citizens of Butler county, whose history bears definite record of his worthy life and worthy achievement. He whose name introduces this review acquired his early education in the public schools of Middletown and supplemented this discipline by a four months' course in a commercial college. His association with the historic banking house of the Oglesby & Barnitz company had its inception in 1885, when he was a youth of eighteen years, and he has held for a long period the position of assistant cashier of this institution. In 1910 he was instrumental in effecting the incorporation of the William Sebald Realty company, which was organized primarily for the purpose of handling effectively the appreciable amount of valuable real estate left by his widowed mother at the time of her death. This corporation erected the Sebald block, one of the modern business structures of Middletown, and it erected also the Castell office building, the first six-story structure built in this city, besides which it has been otherwise influential in furthering real estate improvement at the Butler county city. Mr. Sebald is a member of the directorate of the bank of which he is assistant cashier, is a director and the appraiser of the American Building & Loan association, and a director of the Sebald Beverage company, which is developing one of the flourishing business enterprises of Middle-

town. During the progress of the World war he was a valued member of the fuel administration of Butler county. In politics Mr. Sebald gives his allegiance to the Democratic party, and, as may well be inferred, he takes lively and liberal interest in all things concerning the welfare of his home city and county. He served for one term as president of the city council, and was elected one of the committee that framed the present municipal charter of the city. Under the present municipal regime he has served continuously as city commissioner since 1913, his present term expiring in 1921. He and his wife are zealous members of St. Paul's Evangelical church, of which he served as treasurer for twelve successive years, and fraternally he is one of the appreciative and valued members of Middletown Lodge, No. 257, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he has served as exalted ruler. The year 1887 recorded the marriage of Mr. Sebald to Miss Addie Weber, daughter of Jacob Weber, a well-known citizen of Butler county. Of the three children of this union the eldest is Weber, who is assistant sales manager of the American Rolling Mill company, of Middletown; Herbert is efficiency engineer for the Midwest Coal company, of this city; and Raymond is effectively supervising the operations of a farm property of 350 acres in the beautiful Miami valley to which this history is devoted.

Rudolph Seegar, of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, is typical of the young agriculturists of his state who understands how to get the largest and best returns from his land. The farm occupied by this young man is owned by his mother and is considered most promising as a revenue producer, as the crop yield is always up to expectations. He also rents other lands. He was born in Ross township, a son of Gottlieb and Johanna (Schellheimer) Seegar. His time is well occupied and his success has been due to his own efforts and what he has accomplished has been well merited. The father, Gottlieb Seegar, was born in Germany and came to this country when yet a young man. He settled in Ross township and married Johanna Schellheimer. Five children resulted from this union, three of whom, Leonard, Albert and an infant, have since passed away, Rudolph and Lorine surviving. Since the death of Gottlieb Seegar the farm has been under the management of Rudolph, the widow and daughter, Lorine, residing with the latter. The members of the family are consistent and devoted members of St. John's Evangelical church. Rudolph has membership in the Modern Woodmen and is a regular attendant at the lodge meetings, manifesting a deep interest in the proceedings and being always mindful of the best interests of the organization.

George Selby. Naturally a man's success in life is judged by the standing which he attains in business, financial and social circles, and when he figures prominently in all then he may be said to have accomplished much. George Selby, of West Middletown, Ohio, where he is carrying on agricultural operations in a modest way, is one of the successful men of his locality, and in the past was an important figure in agricultural circles. On both sides of the family he is descended from pioneers of the Miami valley. The Selbys

came originally from Frederick county, Md., in 1802, and first settled near Franklin, Ohio, but in 1803 moved to Madison township, Butler county, where George Selby was born, a son of Samuel and Amanda (Gebhart) Selby, whose other children who are now living are: Mrs. Flora Gibbons of Middletown, Charles of Dayton and Harvey who makes his home with his brother George. Another son, Ed, is deceased. George Selby was educated in the country schools, and remained on the home farm, which has been in the family possession for almost a century. He was married in 1880 to Amelia Baxter, of Attica, Ind., and to this union there were born six children: Vernon, who married Lizzie Metzler and has two children,—Mary and Paul; Cora, who married Charles Urschel of Carlisle and has two children, Esther and Charles; Orion, who married Helen, daughter of James and Kansas (Carnes) Penwell, and has five children,—James, Luther, William, Helen and Richard; Grover, who married Eva Lanier; Bob, who resides with his parents; and Tess, who died in 1910, as the wife of Kenneth Kaiser of Marysville, Ohio, leaving two children,—George and Robert, who are being tenderly and carefully reared by their grandparents. Tess (Selby) Kaiser was a beautiful young woman whose lovely qualities endeared her to all, and from the shock of whose death her parents have never recovered. At the present time Mr. Selby is operating about twenty-three acres of land in the vicinity of West Middletown, raising tobacco and corn. He is a man of excellent character and high reputation and a citizen of progressive and constructive ideas. In political matters he is a Democrat, and he and the members of his family belong to the Baptist church.

Peter Selby. It was the fate of Peter Selby to rear such a structure of business and character success, that now, although a quarter of a century has joined the past since his death, August 24, 1891, the memory of him burns brightly in the hearts and minds of the friends who loved him, and of such survivors of the business contingent as were associated with him during his forty-four years of residence in Madison township, Butler county. As in life, mention of this early carpenter and agriculturist brings to mind a loyal, courteous and high thinking man, one who took his way in all gentleness through the world, leaving people and conditions better than when he first found them. Mr. Selby was born near Carlisle, Warren county, O., a son of Middleton and Rachael (Coon) Selby, and a grandson of Zephania Selby, a native of Holland. Middleton Selby was born in Holland and was a young man when he came to the United States and located in Ohio. He was a learned man for his day, and when not engaged in farming taught in the rural schools and became widely and favorably known as an educator. In later years the family moved to Madison township, Butler county, and settled on Browns Run, but Middleton Selby's death occurred at Pontiac, O. His operations in agriculture were decidedly successful, and at his death he left an estate of $30,000, considered very large for his time. In public life he wielded a distinct influence for good in his community, and for twenty-four years was township trustee, also served as justice of the peace. His

political beliefs made him a Democrat, while his religion was that of the Baptist church. He and his wife, who was a native of Kentucky, were the parents of fourteen children, of whom one died in infancy and thirteen grew to maturity, but the only survivor is Tunis Selby, who lives on the old homestead in Madison township. While caring for his own children Mr. Selby also gave fatherly care to eight orphaned children. Peter Selby grew up on the old home place and received his education in the local public schools, following which he applied himself to learning the trade of carpenter, which he mastered. For forty-four years he resided on a farm in section 10, Madison township, dividing his time between agricultural pursuits and carpentry, and thus he was engaged at the time of his death, August 24, 1891. He was a Democrat in politics. In 1858 Mr. Selby was married to Catherine Penrod, who was born in North Carolina, a daughter of John and Catherine (Boaz) Penrod, of Pennsylvania. Her paternal grandfather, David Penrod, with a brother, came to America with the forces of Lord Cornwallis, of England, under whom he fought for four years. He later became convinced of the justice of the American cause and deserted to the ranks of the patriot army, which he served until the close of the Revolutionary war. Following the declaration of peace, he settled in Pennsylvania and sent for his wife and two children, following which he carried on farming until his death. Following that event, John Penrod, the first born in Pennsylvania, went with his mother and brothers to North Carolina and later came to Ohio, where he assisted in rearing the family. He located on Brown's Run, Madison township, near Franklin, where he cleared a farm and made a home, subsequently married and secured land near Carlisle, and then lived west of Germantown. Selling out, he came to Butler county and settled near Poast Town, where he died at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife passed away at the age of sixty. He was always a farmer, voted the Democratic ticket, was a prominent and influential member of the Reformed church and a great student of the Bible. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Jacob, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Mary, deceased, who was the wife of the late Alfred Beard, of Middletown; John, a cooper by trade, who lived at Middletown; and Catherine, now Mrs. Selby. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Selby were: Mary, who died at the age of nineteen years; Frank, a carpenter at Dayton, who died in 1891; Middleton J., a coal dealer at West Middletown; Carrie, the widow of William Paulin, of West Middletown; Emmet, a carpenter, who met an accidental death at the age of twenty-one years; Henrietta, the wife of Elwood Siebert, carrying on operations on the Selby homestead in Madison township; and Orion, a florist at Middletown. Mrs. Selby still owns forty-six and one-half acres of the old homestead, where she resides in the midst of comfort and plenty, surrounded by many warm friends who know and appreciate her many sterling qualities of mind and heart. She has been a friend of the poor and sick, and has always been a great church worker, first in the Reformed faith, in which she was reared, and later as a member of the Lutheran

church. While she has reached advanced years, she is wonderfully preserved, and her splendid memory enables her to recall in an interesting and accurate manner many happenings of the early days, when local history was still in the making and when the early settlers were making ready the way for the advancing tide of civilization.

Joseph Sertel, veteran of the Civil war, has the distinction of being the oldest manufacturer of brooms in Butler county. This highly respected resident of Union township has carried on this industry since 1868, a period of more than a half a century, and has also engaged to some extent in farming, and throughout his entire career has manifested the possession of high ideals of business and citizenship. Mr. Sertel was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 21, 1846, a son of Peter and Magdalena Sertel, natives of the same country. The parents started with their children for the United States, but during the journey one of the daughters was lost at sea, by falling overboard. The little party eventually landed at New Orleans, but on the boat coming up the Mississippi river the father succumbed to a fatal malady, and was buried at Louisville, Ky. Finally the mother and her children arrived at Cincinnati, where Joseph Sertel completed his education and grew to manhood. His first employment was as a cigarmaker in that city, but in 1864 he enlisted in the 183d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which organization he fought bravely in the engagements in which it participated until the close of the war. After securing his honorable discharge he came to Butler county and for six years lived at Longs Corner, and during that time, in 1868, began the manufacture of brooms. In 1872 he located at Pisgah, where, two years later, he built his present factory, and at this time manufactures and disposes of about 2,500 dozen brooms annually. The firm is now known as J. Sertel & Sons, and Mr. Sertel is acknowledged to be the oldest manufacturer of brooms in Butler county. At various times the factory has been added to and new machinery installed, and at present it turns out a finished product of excellent grade that meets with a steady and satisfying demand. Mr. Sertel, during his career, has also been something of an agriculturist, and his labors in this connection have resulted in his securing a large, valuable and productive property in Union township. He is a man of the strictest integrity, who compels respect by reason of the honorable manner in which he conducts himself in business circles and civic life, and his acquaintance includes some of the best men of the county. For several years he served his community capably in the capacity of school director and in other ways has rendered constructive service. In matters pertaining to politics he supports the Republican party, and his fraternal affiliation is with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. January 1, 1872, Mr. Sertel married Emma Jane Slayback, and to this union there have been born six children, all of whom are living. Blanche resides with her parents. Edwin J. married Lillie Huff and they have one child, Marcena; Earl L. married Elva Bunnell and they have three children: Marie, Grace and Viola. Clifton A. married Anna Deemer and they have one

child, Paul. Effie May married Harry Mossteller and they have one daughter, Florence. Viola M. married Wilmer Littell and they have one child, Aileen.

Mrs. Mary A. Shaeffer, who is a highly esteemed resident of West Middletown, Ohio, is the widow of the late John P. Shaeffer, who, for many years was one of the most substantial business men of Butler county. Mrs. Shaeffer was born near Brown's run, Butler county, Ohio, daughter of Jacob and Mary Huntsbarger. Her father was a pioneer settler in the county and a man of an honest and upright life. Mrs. Shaeffer has the following brothers and sisters: Jacob, Peter, John, Dallas, Elizabeth, Mrs. O. Huffman; and Catherine, Mrs. J. Francis. Mrs. Shaeffer attended the public schools in the neighborhood of her father's farm, and was reared to capable young womanhood by a good and careful mother. To her marriage with John P. Shaeffer one son was born, Lynnwood, who is in business at Cincinnati. He has two sons, Donald and Virgil. During the greater part of Mr. Shaeffer's life he was a lumber merchant at West Middletown and had interests all over the county. His death in 1913, was very generally deplored, for he was a man of fine character, beloved in his family and ever ready to be helpful as a neighbor or citizen. Mrs. Shaeffer occupies her beautiful home at West Middletown. She is a member of the Presbyterian church.

William L. Shaeffer. To a contemplative and analytical mind, it is an interesting, pleasant and instructive task to trace through its various stages the career of a man who, by energy, persistence, self-reliance and steadfast adherence to what he believes to be right, has risen to the highest municipal position in the community of which he is a member. Such a career has been that of Hon. William L. Shaeffer, mayor of Seven Mile, O., and one of his locality's most prominent and influential business citizens. Mr. Shaeffer was born near Collinsville, Ohio, in April, 1874, and is a son of John and Sarah Alice (Young) Shaeffer, both of Butler county, Ohio. John Shaeffer had a public school education, and during the greater part of his life resided in Preble county, where he was engaged in successful farming operations. He died October 19, 1912, while his widow survives him and makes her home at Seven Mile. They were the parents of the following children: William L.; Charles Elmer, formerly a farmer and now engaged in the elevator business with his brother, William L.; Ohmer, formerly a farmer, but now a merchant at Seven Mile, married Edith Fort; Laura, the wife of Ed Dome, of Collinsville; and Ralph, a conductor on the Pennsylvania railroad, running out of Akron. William L. Shaeffer attended the public schools at Morning Sun and spent one year at the Morning Sun high school, and remained with his parents, carrying on farming, until 1902. In that year he removed to a farm on the Trace road, where during the next ten years he carried on operations, and in 1912 settled at Seven Mile, where he bought the grain elevator formerly owned by R. A. Campbell, and invested $7,500 in new equipment. The elevator was thus entirely remodeled, with a track scale, new office, and other improvements, and the citizens of this community being favorably impressed by such a display of

enterprise and progressive spirit, the business began to grow by leaps and bounds and the establishment has since come to be considered one of the city's leading assets and most necessary adjuncts. This elevator now has a capacity of 20,000 bushels. In the year 1918 Mr. Shaeffer handled 105,000 bushels of wheat and 45,000 bushels of old corn, in addition to doing a banner business in dealing in coal, lumber, flour, cement, fence posts, glass, wire, seed, etc., which form a part of his business. A man of the highest business integrity, he has the unqualified confidence of the men of his community, and his splendid abilities prove beneficial to any enterprise or project with which he is associated. He was married March 27, 1901, to Miss Zella C. Phares, of Wayne township, Butler county, a daughter of Washington and Josephine (Beadle) Phares, farming people of Wayne township, both of whom are now deceased. To this union there have been born two children: Howard Melvin and Naoma L. Mr. Shaeffer has long been connected with civic affairs, and always in a constructive and helpful way. For many years he was a member of the school board, of which body he has been president for the past five years, and four years ago was elected to the mayoralty, a position which he has retained, and in which he has established an excellent record for accomplishment, executive capacity and businesslike management. He is a Republican. Fraternally, he is affiliated with Seven Mile Lodge, No. 459, K. P., and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church, in the work of which he takes an active part. In every walk of life, Mayor Shaeffer is a leader at Seven Mile, and while occupying this position he has been unusually successful in making and retaining friendships, for there are few more popular men in the community.

James M. Shaffer. Among the substantial, progressive and highly esteemed residents of Jacksonboro, few have displayed during their careers a higher order of citizenship or have established a better record for success won honorably, than has James M. Shaffer. A business man of many years' standing here, he has at all times combined a regard for the advancement of his community with his desire for personal prosperity, and has thus placed himself in the class that forms the most desirable element that any locality can maintain. Mr. Shaffer was born at Jacksonboro, Ohio, a son of Samuel and Mary (Jarrett) Shaffer, natives of Germany. His parents were early settlers of this part of the Miami valley, where they rounded out honorable and useful careers and were highly respected by their neighbors and acquaintances because of their many admirable qualities of mind and heart. The parents both died at Jacksonboro, the father May 30, 1892, and the mother, at an advanced age, November 8, 1912. Of their six children, but three survive: Ada, who is now Mrs. W. B. Schenck, of West Middletown; W. H., who resides at Middletown; and James M. James M. Shaffer was educated in the public schools and reared to habits of industry and honesty and early became self-supporting. One of his boon companions during boyhood was J. M. Cox, present governor of Ohio, and the ties of friendship formed during those early days still exist, ripened by the passage of the years. During

a long period Mr. Shaffer has been engaged in the grocery business at Jacksonboro, and through energy and honorable dealing, backed up by native business talent, has built up an excellent patronage, his present establishment being a modern store carrying a complete stock of all manner of staple and fancy groceries. His business standing is high and his reputation as a citizen no less so. He has always been a supporter of local movements, and during the period of the great war answered every call, local, state or national, made upon him, it being improbable that there was another man in the vicinity who contributed in like degree to the various patriotic movements. A friend of education, he has served as a member of the local school board for some years, a position which he holds at the present time, and the high regard and confidence in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is exemplified in the fact that he has acted as township treasurer for fourteen consecutive years, during which time he has established an excellent record for faithful, conscientious and expeditious performance of every duty devolving upon him in that capacity. He is a staunch Republican in his political sympathies, having voted that ticket from the time that he cast his first ballot. With his family he belongs to the United Brethren church. November 1, 1888, Mr. Shaffer was united in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Weikel) Bailey, and to this union there have been born three daughters: Lida A., who is now Mrs. Roy Millman, of Dayton, who is the wife of Ed Marts, of Jacksonboro; and Mary, who is the wife of William Jaspering, of Jacksonboro.

William H. Shaffer. The retired colony at Middletown was augmented twelve years ago by the arrival of William H. Shaffer, who since that time has resided quietly at his home on Curtis avenue. Up to the time of his retirement from active pursuits, Mr. Shaffer had been extensively engaged for many years in farming in Preble county, where he had built up a substantial fortune through industry and good management, and where he had likewise been successful in establishing himself in public confidence. The reputation which preceded him as a citizen of public spirit and general worth has been substantiated and strengthened since his arrival at Middletown, where he has been identified with a number of beneficial movements. Mr. Shaffer was born near Jacksonboro, Butler county, Ohio, June 19, 1848, a son of Samuel and Mary (Jarrett) Shaffer. His parents, natives of Pennsylvania, came at an early date to Butler county, where the father, a wagon maker by trade, followed that vocation in conjunction with farming. There were six children in the family: Elizabeth, Ella and Samuel, all of whom are deceased; William H. of this notice; Mrs Ada Schenck, of Winchester Pike; and James M., of Jacksonboro. William H. Shaffer was educated in the public schools and reared to farming, a vocation which he adopted as his own when he reached man's estate. For some years he was a landowner in Butler and later owned 150 acres in Preble county upon which he made modern and valuable improvements. He continued to devote his energies to farming until 1907, in which year he decided to turn his

labors over to younger shoulders, and accordingly retired and removed to Middletown, where he has since been resting from his work and enjoying the fruits of his labors, in his pleasant and attractive home on Curtis avenue. Mr. Shaffer married Elizabeth, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Fall) Snyder, and a member of an old, honored and influential family, well and favorably known in the Miami valley, where they were early settlers. There were six children in the Snyder family: Susanna and Benjamin, who are deceased; Samuel; Mrs. Jacob Weikel; Mrs. Alice Osner, and Mrs. Elizabeth A. Shaffer. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer are the parents of two children: Ella, who is the wife of James Aubley; and Stella, who is Mrs. Frank Schwartztrauber, and lives on her father's farm in Preble county. Mr. Shaffer is a Republican, and while not an office seeker is interested in the success of his party. He and Mrs. Shaffer are consistent members of the United Brethren church of Middletown, Ohio.

William A. Shafor, a noted farmer, cattle and sheep raiser and progressive, enterprising citizen, son of Peter and Elizabeth (Cheeseman) Shafor, comes from that sturdy class of pioneers who early paved the way for succeeding generations to develop and increase the resources as well as promote the prosperity and happiness of our beloved commonwealth. He was born January 25, 1855, in Lemon township, Butler county, Ohio, in a log cabin erected by John Gregory in the days of the pioneer, and the house is still standing, a mute but most impressive reminder and testimonial of those early times. Peter Shafor, the father, was born near Excello, Lemon township, February 5, 1825, and was the son of William and Jane (Ryerson) Shafor. William Shafor was born in Somerset county, New Jersey, in 1783. When six years of age he came with his father to Lexington, Ky., and in 1803, with him to Ohio. He served in the war of 1812 and fought the British and Indians. He kept a diary which is still preserved and gives an interesting account of the battles and sufferings of the soldiers. He was remarkable in longevity of life, retaining his sprightliness and activity up to nearly the time of his death. When ninety-one years of age he joined the Presbyterian church. He died in the ninety-eighth year of his age. Peter Shafor was married in Butler county, to Elizabeth Cheeseman, December 6, 1849, who was born in New Jersey, September 16, 1830, and lived in Lemon and Liberty townships, and were the parents of six children, of whom William, the subject of this sketch, was the second-born; the others, John, Hannah, Mrs. Frank Hughes, Elizabeth, Mrs. Edward McHugh, wife of a Methodist minister; Ira and Lewis. Peter Shafor was a very active and enterprising man and took a quite prominent part in every movement which had for its aim and purpose the benefit of the people and the advancement of the interests of the community. He was a noted cattleman, bought much feeding stock and was foremost in the movement for pure-bred cattle. He it was, also, who introduced Galloway cattle from Canada into the State of Ohio, and at a time when his course was considered very much of a venture. He was one of the originators of the Polled Durham

breed of cattle, and for a number of years one of the most successful breeders and exhibitors of that breed, and it was due mainly to his efforts that demand for high-grade polled cattle in this locality was created and established. For a number of years he also served the public as county infirmary director. William A., our subject, received his education in the country schools of Liberty township and at the National Normal university of Lebanon, O. He attended the institution at Lebanon two winters and then made a tour of Europe, visiting France, Germany, Holland, England, Ireland and Scotland, and upon his return took up active farming, with John R. Shafor, his uncle, as partner in importing and breeding Oxford Down sheep and raising Polled Durham cattle. In 1895, he married Hannah Van Cleef, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kyle) Van Cleef, of Fairfield township. After their marriage, the couple lived in Amanda, a village near Middletown, Ohio, two years, but later they took possession of the Van Cleef Homestead near Hamilton and it has been their home since May, 1900. Here he began to specialize on Guernsey cattle, and bred up a fine herd, still keeping a flock of Oxford Down sheep. In 1897 he was elected to the Butler County Fair Board and was chosen its secretary for a period of two years. For many years he has been secretary of the American Oxford Down Sheep Record Association which includes also Canada in its jurisdiction, and has rendered valuable service. In all local affairs, Mr. Shafor takes much interest. He was a member of the Local Draft Board, and participated in the drives for the Red Cross, Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamps. Politically, Mr. Shafor is a Democrat, and has been honored by his party in local politics; socially, he is a member of the Masonic order affiliating with Jefferson Lodge No. 90, F. & A. M. and Hope Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F. of Middletown. He is a man of close observation and is devoted to his business and is worthy of all confidence reposed in him.

John C. Sharkey. The present mayor of the thriving community of Somerville, Ohio, John C. Sharkey, has been identified prominently with civic affairs for many years and through his individual services as well as by cooperation with other progressive and constructive citizens, has done much to advance his city's interests. Mr. Sharkey has rendered faithful service to the public also in another than a civic way, for he has been station and express agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Somerville for the past twenty years, during which time he has discharged his duties in an expeditious and capable manner, thus largely accelerating the movement of traffic and the matter of transportation. John C. Sharkey was born at Somerville, Ohio, April 25, 1865, a son of John and Mary (Croughen) Sharkey. His parents, natives of County Roscommon, Ireland, grew up in their native place, where they were married, and came to the United States on their wedding trip, their first location being in New York state. Subsequently they located at Hamilton, and also lived at Somerville, and John Sharkey, a stone mason and contractor, did considerable work in these lines in Butler and Preble counties. He was a man widely

known and had many friends at Somerville, where he took up his residence in 1854. He and his wife were faithful members of the Catholic church, first at Hamilton and later at Oxford, and were the parents of four children: Mary A., who has never married; Thomas F., a United States gauger at Cincinnati; John C.; and Margaret, the wife of G. W. Mulholland of Somerville. John C. Sharkey was educated in the public schools of Somerville, and as a youth worked with his father in the contracting business. In this way he came into connection with railroad work and railroad men, and like many young men was attracted by railroading. At the age of twenty years he secured a position in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Reading, and consecutive promotions during the ten years that followed gained for him the position of express and station agent at Somerville, a post which he has filled with efficiency and conscientiousness for two decades of years. His record in this office is an excellent one, well meriting the confidence in which he is held by the company, while his unfailing courtesy and geniality have won him innumerable friendships and his fidelity to duty has established him substantially as a man of reliability. These things were taken into consideration largely when Mr. Sharkey came before the public as an aspirant for office. He had for a long period been interested in civic affairs and democratic politics, and in a number of minor positions had displayed the possession of executive capacity and intelligence as to the needs of the community. Eventually he was elected president of the city council, a position in which he served with honor for eight years, and from this office was elevated to the mayoralty, he now being the incumbent of the chief executive's chair. His administration has been characterized by the securing of some much needed legislation and the installation of a number of improvements. He and the members of his family belong to St. Mary's Catholic church, Oxford. January 10, 1894, Mayor Sharkey married Fannie, daughter of Jacob and Eve Jacobs of Reading, Ohio, and to this union there have been born one son and three daughters: John Patrick, Marion, Lillian and Corine. He was born February 11, 1895, and after attending the graded schools at home completed a course at the Hamilton high school. In 1913 he entered the office of the Pennsylvania railroad at Somerville under his father, and was serving as telegraph operator in July, 1917, when he enlisted in the United States army.

James Earl Shaw. The well equipped garage and auto repair shop with James Earl Shaw as its proprietor is known as one of the most up-to-date concerns in Millville, Ross township, Butler county, Ohio. The business is a growing one and is patronized by autoists, farmers as well as pleasure seekers of the village and surrounding country. Although young in years he understands thoroughly every minute point of the business and is thereby enabled to satisfy his patrons. He was born in Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, June 8, 1886, being the elder of two sons of Plim and Catherine (Rolhemel) Shaw, the other son being Silas. James Earl Shaw received his education in the schools of Ross township and later took

up farming. It was in 1914 that he realized the possibilities for an up-to-date garage and automobile repair business in Millville, and in partnership with his brother Silas, opened a garage and repair shop, but later on the latter retired and Henry Wichey became one of the owners. In the course of time the reputation of this garage for the accommodations it provided patrons and the superior repair work spread throughout Ross township and the business continued to develop uniformly and consistently and Mr. Shaw is solicitous at all times for the welfare of his patrons and any auto repair work entrusted to him is well taken care of. His wife was Miss Margaret Woolensnyder, daughter of William and Lillian Woolensnyder of Millville. They have two children, Earl J. and Eileen. Mr. Shaw and wife are Presbyterians and he is a Democrat in politics.

Daniel Millikin Sheley, son of Roderick and Sidney (Catterlin) Sheley, was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, December 14, 1835. Roderick came to Butler county with his parents who settled in Fairfield township. He was born in Virginia, and prior to coming to Butler county, lived for a short time in Greene county with his parents. Beside Roderick there were two brothers and two half-sisters. One of the brothers, William D. Sheley, served in the War of 1812. Roderick was married in Butler county to Sidney Catterlin, daughter of Darby Catterlin, and after their marriage until the time of their death, lived in Fairfield township. To them were born the following children: Mary, Mrs. William Cruzen, lived in Butler county; Darby, lived in Greene county, Ohio; Ann M., Mrs. Benjamin Harkrader, lived in Paris, Ill.; Belizant, Mrs. Robert Elliott, lived in Warren county, Ind.; Cynthia Ann; Samuel; Jacob; Daniel Millikin, subject of this sketch; William; Bayless; and T. Ellen, Mrs. Marcellus Thomas, of Hamilton, Ohio. Daniel M. Sheley has, throughout his long life, been very actively engaged, and many public honors have been bestowed upon him by his friends through their suffrage and otherwise. As a boy, through the district and private schools and a course in the Commercial college at Hamilton he secured his educational qualifications to fit himself for life's duties, and at once turned his attention to farming. From the outset, his capabilities received recognition, and continuously he was called to serve in responsible public positions. He has been in charge of all the township offices: Trustee, treasurer, and board of education, the latter for a period of twenty-five years. He next entered the Internal Revenue service as storekeeper and gauger, and was later elected to the office of county commissioner for the term 1892-98. During that time many important and necessary improvements were undertaken and completed, among them a number of modern bridges, some of which were lost in the disastrous and memorable flood of 1913. In 1859, Mr. Sheley was married to Gertrude Miller, daughter of A. P. and Elizabeth (Whitehill) Miller, who then lived on the place now occupied by Mr. Sheley. The children of A. P. and Elizabeth Miller now living are: Caroline, Mrs. Richter, lives in Council Grove, Kans.; Fanny, Mrs. Richter, lives in Wichita, Kans.; George M., of Hamilton. For one year after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Sheley lived in St. Clair township,

after which they moved to the old Miller homestead. The children by this marriage were: William, who lives in Detroit, married Sarah Wehr, deceased; Anna, Mrs. William Manning, living in Hamilton, Ohio; Rose, Mrs. Louis Stroh, living in Fairfield township; Grace, Mrs. Henry Hammerle, lives in Hamilton; Percy, married Etta Marshall, lives on the home place; Edwin, married Rosa Babeck, lives in Wayne township; Pearl, Mrs. Dr. John A. Burnett, lives in Hamilton; and Frank, married Grace Flickinger, lives in Hamilton. William Sheley had one son, Earl, who was with the aviation corps in France during the World war. Court Manning, son of Anna (Sheley) Manning was also in service during the war. The death of Mrs. D. M. Sheley occurred in March, 1916. She was a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Sheley is a large landholder, all of which is under cultivation and valuable property; one tract in Wayne township contains 160 acres, and another in Fairfield township has sixty acres. In politics, Mr. Sheley is a Democrat; his church relationship is as a member of the Methodist church; and he is a Mason of long standing. For sixty years he has belonged to lodge No. 17, at Hamilton, Ohio, which in point of time, far surpasses the record of any other member of that lodge. He has always been a liberal and generous contributor to all worthy causes.

Oliver N. Shellabarger, D. V. M. In the profession of veterinary medicine in Butler county, one who has made rapid strides in the direction of success although practically a newcomer in the calling is Oliver N. Shellabarger, whose practice radiates in all directions from his central residence place of College Corner. A young and enthusiastic devotee of his calling, he brings to it a natural predilection supplemented by careful training in an institution of specialized knowledge and if the past may be taken as a criterion, the future holds much in store for him as a practitioner. Doctor Shellabarger was born at Union, in the northern part of Montgomery county, Ohio, October 9, 1888, a son of Enos and Rebecca (Weybright) Shellabarger, the former a native of Union and the latter of West Milton, this state. The paternal grandparents of Doctor Shellabarger were natives of Lancaster county, Pa., who as young married people came to Montgomery county, Ohio, and settled down to lives spent in agricultural pursuits, while the maternal grandparents came from West Milton, Ohio, where the family had been early settlers. Enos Shellabarger continued to be engaged in farming and stock raising throughout his life and was one of the substantial and highly respected men of his community. He was buried at Minnich cemetery, while his widow still survives him as a highly esteemed resident of West Milton. They were the parents of the following children: Margaret, who became the wife of Walter Firth of Dayton; Gertrude, who married Charles Weaver of that city; Almina, who married Vern Garber, of Biloxi, Miss.; Edna, who became the wife of Ezra Kimmel, of Brookville, Ohio; Elmer, a farmer of Butler county; Lee, a mechanic of Dayton, who married Irene Foreman; Ward, a farmer of the Union community of Montgomery county, who married Emma Slough; and Oliver N. Oliver N. Shellabarger attended the public schools of Randolph township, and a high school

in Montgomery county, following which he returned to his father's farm and was associated for some years with the elder man in his operations. From boyhood he had always been a great lover of dumb animals, which he came to understand, and had been very successful in curing a number of their ailments. Finally he decided to adopt the vocation of veterinary medicine as his life work and after some preliminary preparation went to the Cincinnati Veterinary college, from which he was graduated April 15, 1919. At that time he located at College Corner, where he opened an office, and since that time has been engaged in an increasingly successful practice. He has patrons not alone in the immediate vicinity of his home locality, but throughout the surrounding territory, covering several adjacent counties and is steadily gaining the reputation of being a skilled and humane practitioner of his art. His pleasant home is situated on the Ohio side of the city. Doctor Shellabarger was married at Cincinnati, April 14, 1919, to Yvonne, daughter of A. O. and Eva Miller, farming people of West Manchester, Ohio. Mrs. Shellabarger is a member of the Christian church. The Doctor is a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Order of Railway Telegraphers. During the great World war he was connected with the Medical Reserve Corps after having enlisted at Eaton, Ohio, as a private in Battery A, 322d Light Field Artillery, and spent some time at Camp Sherman. He is one of the popular young citizens of his community, where he is always connected with movements to promote the general welfare.

Caleb A. Shera. The career of Caleb A. Shera is strongly entrenched in the financial history of Butler county. The city of Oxford, which witnessed the beginning of his career, offered a promising field for the young man of but limited experience, and the citizens who have watched his rise have never had cause to regret the faith they placed in his energy, enthusiasm and ability. He has grown into his opportunities, has fashioned his resources to his needs, and has reflected dignity, sincerity and genuine worth upon a field of effort for which he is singularly and even admirably equipped. Caleb A. Shera was born on a farm four miles west of Oxford, Butler county, Ohio, October 23, 1851, a son of John and Margaret Shera. His father was still little more than a lad when he emigrated to the United States from his native County Sligo, Ireland, first locating in Butler county, whence, thirteen years later, came the lady who subsequently became his wife, she having first stayed for a short time in Franklin county, Ind., after her arival in this country from County Sligo. They were honorable and highly respected farming people of Butler county, where they lived until 1869, in that year removing to the city of Oxford, where the father died at the pleasant family home on North Beech street, November 8, 1902, at an advanced age, while the mother survived until December 18, 1904. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: Eliza S., who married Thomas Greer; Mary E., who married George Munns and lived at Oxford; James H.; Sarah A.; Caleb A., of this notice; William, who married Hattie Roudebush and resides at Oxford; Charles, who married

ERNEST L. SHERMAN, JR., AND FAMILY

Jessie Hauk and lived at Oxford, where Mrs. Shera died. Caleb A. Shera received his early education in the country schools of Butler county, which he attended during his boyhood in the winter months, while during the summer seasons he helped his father and brothers in the tasks on the home farm. Later he was sent to the high school at Oxford, and then spent six months at Miami university. While he had been reared as a farmer's son, he had no intention of following an agricultural life, and so became engaged in the grocery and lumber business, later on becoming a partner in the banking firm of Munns, Shera & Co. From this banking house he went to the First National bank of Oxford, as cashier, and upon the opening for business of the Oxford National bank, of which Mr. Shera was one of the organizers, he was made cashier in 1902, and has held that position ever since. This is one of the sound and stable banking institutions of Butler county, which has full public confidence, and much of its prestige is due to the integrity and probity of its cashier, who has evidenced his capability and conservatism in a manner that is reasuring to the depositors and the general community. In his discharge of the important trusts reposed in him he has manifested eminent ability and unswerving integrity and his name is indelibly impressed upon the banking development of the city of his adoption. He has had various other business interests, and was one of the board of trustees which organized the local city light company. He has also discharged a number of other civic responsibilities, having been a councilman of Oxford for two years, and township treasurer for fifteen years, and his public record is without the slightest blemish. As a fraternalist, he belong to the Blue lodge, Hamilton Chapter and Hamilton Commandery and Scottish rite Masons, also belongs to Syrian Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., at Cincinnati. Mr. Shera was married March 28, 1876, to Anna, daughter of Philip Matson, and to the union there have been born the following children: George M., who married Alice Carter and resides at Oxford; Philip D. and Charles, who are unmarried and reside at Oxford, where they are in business; Carey, a resident of Middletown, who married Stella Freeze; Margaret Catherine, who married Herbert Pine, of Dayton; and John Donald, who enlisted in the United States Army during the Great war, and while in France was detailed as an interpreter. Philip and Charles Shera are assistant cashiers in the Oxford National bank, and Carey is identified with the sales department of the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown. All the children are graduates of Miami university, and George M. Shera is engaged in the insurance business.

Ernest L. Sherman, Jr. Nine years of faithful and efficient service in the employ of the American Rolling mill at Middletown have served to make Ernest L. Sherman one of the workers of that plant depended upon for capable performance of duty. When he located at Middletown, in 1911, he came as a stranger, but at this time he has a wide acquaintance and numerous friends and is looked upon as one of the substantial citizens of his adopted community. Mr. Sherman was born at Pittsburg, Pa., July 20, 1886,

a son of Ernest and Sarah (Matthews) Sherman, the former of whom died November, 1918, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident at Cleveland, while the latter survives as a resident of Middletown. Mrs. Sherman was born in Wales, of English parentage, and her father was for a number of years general manager of the big Jones-Laughlin Steel works, at Pittsburg. There were two children in the family: Ernest L., of this notice; and Edwin, a resident of Lorain, Ohio. Ernest L. Sherman obtained a public school education and grew up at Pittsburg; he learned the trade of iron worker in various places throughout the country. After filling several positions satisfactorily, he was called to Middletown, in 1911, and has since discharged the duties of heater in the plant of the American Rolling mill. His faithful and efficient services have been appreciated, and he enjoys the confidence of his employers and the good will and esteem of his fellow-workers. Mr. Sherman was married June 20, 1906, to Miss May Porter, of Portsmouth, Ohio, who was born there May 22, 1890, a daughter of Rev. Benjamin F. and Mildred (Maynard) Porter, her parents still being residents of Portsmouth. Mrs. Sherman's father, who served all through the Civil war and was confined to Andersonville Prison for ten months, is a cousin of General Porter, and another cousin is Judge Hager, who some years ago was a candidate for the gubernatorial chair in Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman are the parents of five children, namely: Raymond, born April 23, 1908; Ralph, born March 12, 1910; Edwin, born February 2, 1912; May Elizabeth, born March 3, 1914; and Katherine, born March 8, 1917. In action and words a conservative man, Mr. Sherman takes no radical stand in politics, preferring to remain liberal and to be bound by no party lines. He owns a pretty residence on Linden avenue, and is devotedly attached to his home and family, but that he is not averse to the comradeship of his fellows is shown in the fact that he is one of the most popular members of the local lodges of the Masons, Improved Order of Red Men and Woodmen of the World. In his citizenship he is constructive, supporting progressive movements which promise advancement and contributing to worthy enterprises with a generous hand. He and Mrs. Sherman are consistent members of the Christian church in Middletown, Ohio.

John M. Shirey, a rougher, is another of the skilled workmen who comprise the fine operative force at the extensive shops of the American Rolling Mills company, which represents an important part of the iron and steel industry in America, and also the most important industrial enterprise in the city of Middletown, Butler county. He has been in the employ of this company since 1912, when he came to Middletown from Cumberland, Maryland, where he had been in similar service. He is loyal to all civic duties and responsibilities and in political matters is independent. Mr. Shirey was born in the city of Muncie, Ind., July 26, 1885, and there his father died in 1886, his mother being still a resident of that city. He is the youngest of the children; Raydell is a resident of Daleville, Ind.; Walter maintains his residence in the

state of Kansas; and Martha still lives at Muncie, Ind. Mr. Shirey is a son of John M. and Rosa (Neighbours) Shirey, and on the maternal side he is a grandson of Joseph and Dorothy (Milton) Neighbours, whose original home was at Roanoke, Va. Mrs. Dorothy Neighbours attained to the venerable age of ninety-eight years, and a mutual love and exceptional devotion marked the relations between this venerable woman and her grandson. Mr. Shirey acquired his early education in the public schools of Muncie, Ind., and his apprenticeship to his present trade was one of thorough order. June 7, 1909, Mr. Shirey married Martha Margaret, a daughter of William A. and Mary Jane Hicks Morris. She had previously been married and was the mother of Lena, who is eighteen years of age, and William, who is sixteen years old. Mrs. Shirey was born at Scotdale, Maryland, December 1, 1885, and was a child at the time of her mother's death. The other three children being: James A., of Cincinnati, Ohio; Eliza, wife of Andrew Shaw, of Cincinnati; and Florence, wife of George Schockney, of Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Shirey have no children, but in their pleasant home remain Mrs. Shirey's two children by her former marriage.

Albert Y. Shollenbarger. During the two decades that he has been a resident of Hamilton, Albert Y. Shollenbarger has advanced from a youth whose main assets were his inherent ability and ambition, to a man of substance and standing, and at this time is the proprietor, with his brother, Harry W., of a prosperous and successful automobile agency. Mr. Shollenbarger was born on a farm in the vicinity of Collinsville, Butler county, Ohio, September 2, 1876, a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Shollenbarger, the former of whom, now deceased, was a farmer and for a number of years engaged in the grain, live stock and implement business, while the latter is still living at the home of her daughter, Ruth, at Collinsville. There were seven children in the family, of whom one died in infancy, the others being: Harry W., of Columbus, who has charge of the credit department of the Ohio City Gas company, and is also interested in the automobile business with his brother at Hamilton, is married and has two children; James E., a farmer of Butler county, who is married and has one son; Nellie, the wife of W. G. Jones, an agriculturist of Glenwood, Ind., with one son; Dolores, the wife of Carl Fisher, telegraph operator and ticket agent at Collinsville, with two children; Ruth, living at home with her mother, a brilliant and talented woman who is a teacher in the Western college, Oxford, Ohio; and Albert Y. Albert Y. Shollenbarger was educated in the graded schools of Collinsville, following his graduation from which he was engaged for two years in farming in association with his father. He came to Hamilton first some twenty years ago, but in 1910, removed with his brother, Harry W., to Oxford, Ohio, where he embarked in the livery business and continued therein for six years. Returning to Hamilton in April, 1916, he started in his present business, and now has the agency for Oakland, Allen and Grann automobiles, the Bernstein truck and the Elgin tractor. He conducts a large and well ap-

pointed establishment at No. 330-332 Court street, where he handles tires and all kinds of accessories, and has succeeded decidedly in building up a large and profitable patronage. Mr. Shollenbarger is a man of marked business ability and much energy, and his standing in business circles is an excellent one. He is a member of the Ohio Automobile Trade association, and fraternizes with the Fraternal Order of Eagles. With his family, he belongs to Reverend Brown's congregation of the Presbyterian church. In 1897, Mr. Shollenbarger was united in marriage with Emma Garber, of Collinsville, where her father was prominent in agricultural circles until his death, her mother also having passed away. To this union there have been born seven children, namely: Ferdinand, associated with the Andrews Asphalt & Paving company, at Hamilton, married Court Manning; Hugh, aged twenty, was attending high school when he enlisted April 4, 1917, in the Twenty-second Aerial Squadron, Royal Flying Corps, left for France, January 31, 1918, was promoted to the rank of corporal, and subsequently honorably discharged at the end of the war, and is now employed by the Estate Stove company at Hamilton; Louis, with a graded and high school education, who is now learning the automobile business as an employee of his father; Paul and Helen, who are attending high school at Hamilton, the latter also developing through study and instruction her marked talent for music; Dorothy, who is attending the graded schools; and Thomas.

E. Tyler Shough, one of the well known and esteemed business men of Middletown, Butler county, where he has maintained his residence since 1906 and is now associated with the Westinghouse employment department, a concern which is giving primary attention to the securing of efficient employees for the American Rolling Mills company, was born at London, Ohio, July 23, 1888, and is a son of Charles B. and Minnie (Tyler) Shough, who still reside in that attractive little city. Mr. Shough received his education in the excellent public schools of his native place, and thereafter was associated with his father in the live stock business. In 1906 he established his residence at Middletown, where for four years he was engaged in the retail cigar business, on South Main street. He then assumed a position in the employment department of the American Rolling Mills company, and thirteen months later he left this position to assume one of similar order in the United States Employment office at Middletown. This office was discontinued July 11, 1919, and Mr. Shough is now putting his former experience into effective use as a clerical executive with the Westinghouse employment department. A young man of engaging traits of character and buoyant optimism, Mr. Shough has won a host of friends, in both business and social circles. He did all in his power to aid the government in its campaigns for the furtherance of the war preparations and activities during the late World war, and was specially prominent in supporting and aiding the Red Cross drives in Butler county. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, and he is a valued member of the Middletown Lodge of the Order of Elks, and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church in their

home city, where they are also popular factors in representative social activities. They reside in one of the attractive, modern homes on Yankee road. April 29, 1911, recorded the marriage of Mr. Shough to Miss Mabel Wade, daughter of Waldo and Catherine (Long) Wade, of Middletown, Mrs. Wade being a representative of the Long family that has been one of prominence in the Miami valley since the pioneer era. It may be stated, in conclusion, that the paternal grandfather of Mr. Shough was one of the gallant Ohio soldiers of the Union in the Civil war, and that the gun which he carried while in service is now in the possession of his grandson, E. T. Shough, who naturally places high value upon this heirloom.

Gilbert H. Showers, son of Rev. Lucian Wilson and Clara (Laudenslager) Showers, was born in Brookville, June 25, 1882. There were three brothers in the family, two, Lee and Horace, now live in Charleroi, Pa. Both father and mother died in Kittanning, Pa., the former February 20, 1912; the latter October 18, 1892. December 25, 1903, Mr. Showers was married to Miss Mabel Walters, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Morgan) Walters, and three daughters and a son have been born to them: Janet, Clara, Grace, and Fred. Mrs. Showers had five sisters and brothers: Mrs. Charles Cromling, now living in Cleveland, Ohio; Anna, John, Robert and Gomer with the parents in Middletown. For seven months, Gomer was in the service with the Marines. Mr. Showers is employed as a heater at the plant of the American Rolling Mill company. He is in every way competent and is held in esteem by his co-workers. He owns a splendid home on McKinley avenue and enjoys the companionship of his interesting family. Mr. Showers is a man of principle, and he stands for that element in politics as well as in other affairs.

Thomas Shroyer. Perhaps the best informed man upon agricultural subjects to be found in Butler county is Thomas Shroyer, who, after many years passed in farming, is now living in retirement at his comfortable home at Venice. During a long period Mr. Shroyer has been a regular contributor to leading agricultural publications, and through his pen has added much interesting matter to farming literature. He was born south of Okeana, in Morgan township, Butler county, Ohio, August 23, 1847, a son of John and Margaret (Nelson) Shroyer. His father was a native of Morgantown, Pa., and a son of George and Julian Shroyer, who came early with their family to Butler county and later removed to Brownsville, Union county, Ind., where both passed away when upwards of ninety years of age. They were the parents of nine children. John Shroyer grew up in Union county, Ind., where he was first married to Delilah Retherford, in 1822, four children being born to this union: William, deceased; Jackson, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased, who was the wife of Henry Garner; and Joseph, deceased, who fought as a Union soldier during the Civil war. After the death of his first wife, John Shroyer was united in marriage with Margaret, daughter of William and Barbara (Wilkins) Nelson, in 1835. They spent their lives in Morgan township, where they died, and were buried at New Haven, Hamilton county. Mr. and Mrs. Shroyer had eight

children: Nelson; Delilah; John; Catherine; Thomas; Lydia, who married Sanford L. Hutchinson; and two who died in infancy. Thomas Shroyer was educated in the district schools of Morgan township, and as a youth applied himself to the pursuits of farming. Being possessed of a mind of more than average intelligence, and of the ability to quickly grasp and indefinitely retain knowledge, he secured a much better education than many of his fellows who had equal opportunities, and also was able to acquire the scientific principles of agriculture. For many years he farmed in Morgan township, but eventually, in 1893, retired to Venice, although he is still the owner of 100 acres of good land. Mr. Shroyer is better known as a writer upon agricultural subjects and an agricultural statistician than as a farmer. For a quarter of a century he was editor of the agricultural department of the Democrat and Journal of Hamilton, and for twelve years he was secretary of the Butler County Horticultural Society. From 1890 to 1900 he delivered many lectures before farmers' institutes, a work in which he took great delight. His was the idea and his the work that resulted in the organization of the Scribes Harvest Home Picnic, an annual outing participated in by farming writers. He also acts as crop reporter for the Department of Agriculture, as reporter for the Orange Judd farm publications and as reporter to the Ohio State Board of Agriculture. His other interests are numerous, and among them may be mentioned the Venice Permanent Loan and Building association, of which he is president. His political beliefs make him a staunch Democrat and at times he has filled public office, having been the incumbent of the post of justice of the peace. He belongs to the Christian church, and Mrs. Shroyer to the United Brethren church. December 31, 1891, Mr. Shroyer married Emma L., daughter of John and Mathilda Miles of Mount Healthy, who died without issue in 1904. Mr. Shroyer, in 1907, married Elizabeth, daughter of John and Catherine (Weik) Scheering. Mr. and Mrs. Shroyer have no children of their own, but have reared Elda Walther, a niece of Mrs. Shroyer, since infancy. She graduated from the Venice High school and is now attending Miami university, and was formerly a student at Western College for Women. She is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Albert Shuler, the senior member of A. Shuler & Son, a plumbing and heating concern of Hamilton, Ohio, was born in Lehigh county, Pa., in 1861. He is the son of Moses and Sarah Shuler, who lived all their lives in Pennsylvania. Albert with his brother Maurice are the only members of the family who came to Ohio to live. He received his education in Lehigh county, and after leaving school took up farming and in 1880 came to this county and worked on a farm a short time. He then moved to Hamilton where he began working in the woolen mills of Shuler & Benninghofen, at which place he remained until 1907, when he engaged in the plumbing and heating business. In January, 1917, he took his son Paul in business with him and the firm which has become eminently successful is known as A. Shuler & Son, Plumbing and Heating. He was married in 1882 to Katherine Einsfield and to this union were born two

C. A. SHULER

W. B. SHULER

P. BENNINGHOFEN

C. BENNINGHOFEN

children: Harvy, who married Mary Holiday and who has one child, Harvy A., jr.; and Paul W.

Shuler & Benninghofen. About sixty years ago the original partnership of Shuler & Benninghofen, proprietors of Miami Woolen mills, was formed in the city of Hamilton, Ohio, and during the period that has elapsed this concern has come to the very forefront in the manufacture of paper makers' felts and jackets and a general line of blankets, including bed blankets, crib blankets, Jacquard wrapper blankets, Indian blankets and shawls. The present mill is a modern slow-burning structure, equipped with a complete sprinkler system, operates with steam power and gas, and secures its water supply from its own reservoir. Its equipment is the most highly approved in existence, nine sets of carding machines being operated at present, together with a full equipment of wool washing, picking, spinning, warping, weaving and finishing machinery. The water used is softened with the Kenicott water softening system. The firm is not only one of the longest established concerns at Hamilton, but its long and successful history entitles it to the distinction of being in the foremost ranks among textile industries in the state of Ohio. Its products in fact are too well known to need any extended comment here. In 1862, a new mill was built to accommodate the increasing business, this being erected at Heaton and Lowell streets. Conditions at this time were most auspicious and the business continued to thrive and prosper until the latter part of October, 1865, when a disastrous fire gutted the plant and paralyzed the industry for the time being. With a demonstration of zeal that was noteworthy, plans for a new building were begun at once, and in February of the following year the business was again under a roof and being carried on in its usual efficient way. It was in 1864 that Shuler & Benninghofen made their first felt for use on paper making machinery. The early product differed from that of today in that it was not an endless felt but was seamed. The first endless felt was turned out in 1866 and since then the firm has continued to improve its product and the business has increased wonderfully, the concern today supplying a large part of the felts used in this country. Mr. Benninghofen passed away in 1881 and his two sons succeeded to his interests in the firm. Mr. Shuler's death occurred in 1895, at which time his two sons, C. A. and W. B., took over his interests, and since then the latter, with Messrs. C. and P. Benninghofen, have continued to conduct the business. The big plant was moved to Lindenwald in 1894, and a new and modern four-set mill was constructed. Pleasing in its architecture and of slow-burning and fire-resisting material, the new mill was at once a convenience and an addition to the rapidly developing business district of this suburb. A well-kept lawn and exterior decorations have aided materially in enhancing the value of all property in the vicinity of the big plant. The wool used in this plant is bought chiefly in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. Economy in its handling is effected by blowing the raw wool through galvanized pipes from one department to another. The manufacture of papermaking felts requires special machinery of larger dimensions than that usually found in

woolen mills and in this respect the company is equipped with the latest invented of large machines for this purpose. A modern cost system is in use, furnishing exact costs which are so necessary to the present-day manufacturer who wishes to succeed in business. The products of Shuler & Benninghofen's mills go not only to every state in the union, but to Japan, Australia, Canada, Mexico and other countries. The present owners have followed the same policy in the conduct of their business that their fathers pursued before them. An ever-increasing business has made the enlarging of the Lindenwald plant a necessity from time to time, and at present it occupies considerable space, with its mammoth plant and broad grounds. New machinery to meet the growing needs of the concern is constantly being purchased and installed, and the concern is now better equipped than ever before to handle the tremendous business that is coming to it every day.

Elmer R. Sickles. Located on Van Derveer street, there stands one of the handsomest homes of the city of Middletown, the residence of Elmer R. Sickles. This structure rises as a monument to the skill, industry and thrift of one of Middletown's younger workers, a man still in his early thirties, who has been the architect of his own fortunes and who occupies a position as roller in the plant of the American Rolling Mill company. Mr. Sickles was born November 9, 1887, at St. Louis, Mo., being a son of Richard and Jennie (Desmuke) Sickles, the former of whom still makes his home at St. Louis, where the mother passed to her final rest in June, 1907. A brother, Lewis W. Sickles, is a resident of that city, while a sister, Mrs. Henry Ewing, formerly Susie Sickles, died in the fall of 1918 at her home at Saverton, Mo. Elmer R. Sickles was granted a public school education at St. Louis, where he entered upon his career at an early age. He was enterprising and ambitious, applied himself steadily and whole heartedly to the gaining of a competence, and in 1911 came to Middletown to accept a position in the newly opened plant of the American Rolling mill. Here, by reason of his worth and energy, he has been advanced from time to time, and is now a roller and considered one of the most expert workmen in his line. Mr. Sickles was married September 6, 1913, to Laura M. Dallos, who was born November 8, 1890, daughter of William and Emma (Grimes) Dallos, the former now deceased and the latter a resident of Middletown. Mrs. Sickles has two brothers, Walter and Albert, and one sister, Mrs. Louis Fritch. Mr. Sickles votes for principles in politics instead of for party, and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

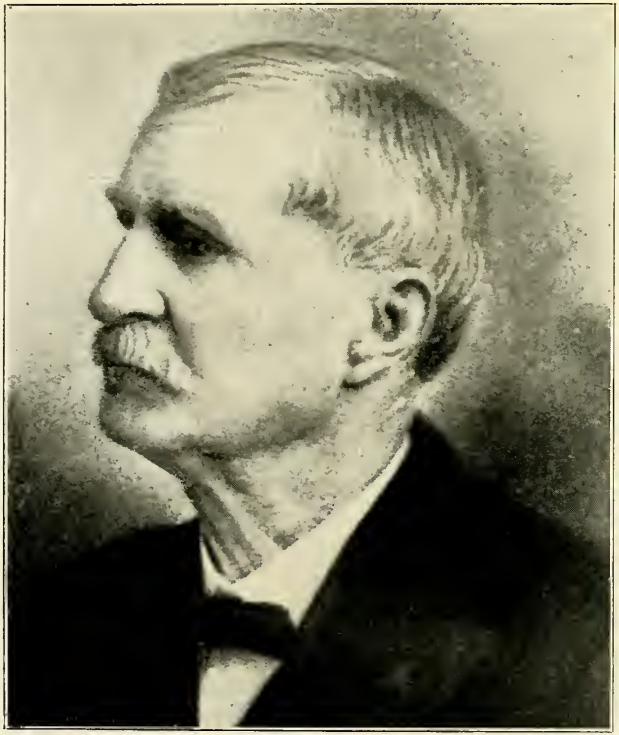
Arthur W. Simms, in his early business days a carpenter and later a carpenter contractor, is one of the sound and substantial business men in his line in the city, and owes the success he has gained solely to himself. Mr. Simms was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, a son of William and Serelda (Ruble) Simms. His father, a native of England, emigrated to the United States in 1858 and first settled in Butler county, near Jones station, where he was residing at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. He fought all through the struggle between the forces of the North and South, as a private,

and established an enviable reputation for bravery and faithful performance of duty. Following his honorable discharge, he went to Hamilton county, where he was engaged in farming, and then to Ross township, Butler county, where he continued his agricultural activities successfully until his death in 1891, at the age of fifty-four years. His widow survived him until 1916 and was seventy-two years of age at the time of her demise. They were the parents of three children: Arthur W., of this notice; Edwin H., a carpenter of Hamilton; and Ellen R., who married J. R. Clark, of Hamilton. Arthur W. Simms received a public school training in his boyhood, and was still a young man when he first came to Hamilton in 1889. He possessed natural mechanical ability and as a youth had thoroughly mastered the carpenter's trade, so that he had only little trouble in securing steady employment. For nineteen years he was identified with John L. Rossin, who was conducting a contracting and building business, but in 1908, embarked in business on his own account and carried on a general contracting business until 1918. In December of that year he started as superintendent for F. K. Vaughn, working on the Ford plant, and has continued to be so associated to the present time. He is a man of marked capability, a skilled workman, a good executive and one absolutely reliable. He is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, having served for five months as first sergeant of Company E, First Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Simms is a staunch Republican in his political views, and while he has never sought public office is a public-spirited citizen who supports all worthy movements. As a fraternalist, he belongs to the local lodge of Elks, in which he is very popular, and he and his wife are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Simms married Emma, daughter of Thomas and Charlotte Cartwright, of Hamilton, her father being a gardener of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Simms are the parents of two sons: William, who is superintendent of street paving work at Perryville, Ohio, for the Federal Asphalt company, and during the war an inspector in the Ordnance Department for the United States Government; and Charles R., who is attending the University of Cincinnati, Ohio.

William A. Simms. One of the forceful personalities among the younger men identified with the American Rolling mill at Middletown, particularly in his work as a member of the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers, is William A. Simms. As one who has worked his own way upward during an active and vigorous career, he is a firm believer in the value of organization as it applies to the protection of labor, while his belief in co-operation has led him also to be active in fraternal work. Mr. Simms was born at Newport, Ky., June 17, 1880, a son of Samuel and Mary (Waterman) Simms. The family was founded in this country by his paternal grandfather, who came from England to the United States in 1869 and located in Kentucky, where until the close of his active life he was connected with the rolling mill business. Samuel Simms was born near the city of London, England, and was a youth when he accompanied his parents to America. He grew up in the atmosphere of the rolling mill industry, to which he devoted himself during the

period of his active labor. There were two children in the family: William A., of this notice; and Mrs. Nellie Hare, of Newport, Ky., wife of Augustus Hare, a sergeant in the United States Army. William A. Simms received a public school education and from the outset of his career has devoted himself to the rolling mill business. For some years past he has identified himself with the American Rolling mill, at Middletown, where he occupies the position of heater. He is a general favorite with his fellow-workmen and his record with the company is one that stamps him as a faithful and industrious worker. For several years past he has been somewhat of a prominent factor in his local of the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers, and was a delegate to the recent convention of that body held at Louisville, Ky., in 1919. His popularity among his fellows, and his knowledge of what organization really means, make him a valuable man in this connection and his labors have always been of a constructive character. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and, as before noted, active in lodge work, and during the recent war his voice was heard on many occasions when he was speaking in behalf of loan drives, charities, etc. He is liberal in politics. September 27, 1905, Mr. Simms was united in marriage with Catherine Frensdorf, who was born February 19, 1882, daughter of Benjamin Franklin and Minnie (Gloystein) Frensdorf, of Cincinnati. To this union there was born a little son, who was called away shortly after birth. There were ten other children in the Frensdorf family: Herman; Charles; Mrs. Simms; Minnie; Louise; Eleanor, the wife of William Voiers of Kennedy Heights, Ohio; Laura, the wife of W. A. Jurgensen, of Cincinnati; Arthur, of Middetown; Walter, who was with the 147th Regiment of the 37th Army Division, in France, fought in a number of important engagements, and was slightly wounded in the hand, but who returned safely and is now a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio; Florence, of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Harold, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mrs. Simms, who, like her husband, has numerous friends at Middletown, is a woman of superior education, being a junior of Ohio Northern university at Ada, Ohio, and of delightful personality. She and her husband are members of the United Brethren church, and reside in an attractive and artistic stucco bungalow on Logan avenue, which was built by Mr. Simms in 1914.

C. W. Simpson, secretary and treasurer of The Federal Asphalt Paving company, of Hamilton, is a marked proof of the value and necessity of long practical training for the higher officials of concerns engaged in specialized work and of the justice of the workings of a system that awards high place to those who have proved their worth. He is a native of Wabash, Ind., where he received his public school education, and after his graduation from the high school attended a commercial college at Huntington, Ind. For a short time he was located at Chicago, variously employed, but eventually returned to Wabash, where he became connected with the Wabash Daily Times-Star and remained with that paper as a reporter until coming to Hamilton in 1907. At that time he became associated with The Andrews Asphalt Paving company, and remained with



M. L. SIMS

MRS. MARY SIMS

MRS. OLIVER B. ELSWORTH

that concern as secretary until 1915, when he assisted in the organization of The Federal Asphalt Paving company, of which he was also one of the promoters. He was chosen secretary and treasurer of this new concern, positions which he has since retained, in addition to being a heavy stockholder and a member of the board of directors. The concern has shown a healthy and continuous growth since its inception and its contracts to the time of this writing have included the laying of in excess of 1,000,000 square yards of paving. The concern is also permitted to do business in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky and West Virginia, and has operated extensively in each state. Mr. Simpson has impressed himself upon business circles and his associates as a man of marked capacity, an energetic and thoroughly informed man of affairs, of shrewd judgment and recognized acumen. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and in his political affiliation supports the candidates and principles of the Democratic party. In 1908, he was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Grant Wilson. They have no children.

Col. Martin Sims. Middletown counts upon her roll of departed honored residents none who left behind more numerous and substantial evidences of association with its affairs than the late Col. Martin Sims. As a business man, soldier and public-spirited citizen he came and went among the people of his town for many years until the close of his life, January 29, 1902, and there remains in his wake an impression of practical usefulness, of genuine dependable character, directly traceable to his untiring zeal and ready recognition of opportunity. Colonel Sims was born June 5, 1842, two miles southeast of Middletown, and was one of the first to answer President Lincoln's call for troops at the outbreak of the Civil war, enlisting April 19, 1861, when less than nineteen years of age, in Company G, Twelfth Regiment, O. V. I., with which he served throughout the period of the war, rising through bravery and meritorious service to the rank of colonel. Upon his return to civil life he resumed the duties of peace, and July 3, 1870, was married to Mary Bishop, who was born in Warren county, Ohio, near Lebanon, a daughter of Jeremiah and Louisa (Barker) Bishop, and a sister of Erastus Barker, who lost his life as a Union soldier during the struggle between the forces of the North and the South. To this union there were born fifteen children, of whom all but three, Arthur, Lucy and Madge who died in infancy, grew to maturity. The others were: Olive Louise, who died recently at Terlton, Okla., as the wife of Marion Edgar; Sallie, the wife of Levi G. South, of Middletown; Ella, the wife of James G. Blaine, of Middletown; Hattie, the wife of George W. Brown, of Middletown; Missouri, who resides with her mother; Cora, the wife of John Conrad Hurm, of Hamilton; Henrietta, a graduate of the Middletown high school, who took a three-year course at Christ hospital, Cincinnati, and left for France, July 12, 1918, as a member of the Red Cross, being the only young lady from Middletown to thus volunteer her services for overseas work; she married Lieut. Oliver Buckland Elsworth, and they are residents of Middletown, Ohio; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of

Ralph Elwood, of Bowling Green, Ohio; Eli, who resides with his mother and sister; and Walter, James and Robert Floyd, who are married and residents of Middletown. Colonel Sims was a son of Allen Hamilton and Sarah (Floyd) Sims, the latter of whom was a cousin of Roscoe Conkling, the noted statesman, lawyer and politician. Colonel Sims was a man of liberal and practical ideas, a promoter of education, good government, religion and straightforward living, and to know him was to have one's confidence in human nature strengthened, and one's faith in the homely, honest virtues which tend to public confidence fortified. Mrs. Sims is a faithful member of the Methodist church and has been active in its numerous movements. She is also a helpful member of the Temperance League and prominent in club and social life, and takes an active part in the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, having been a delegate to the recent G. A. R. Encampment held at Lima, Ohio.

Mathias Sixt. A member of that class of practical agriculturists whose early training, quick perceptions and great capacity for painstaking industry have advanced them to position of trust and importance, Mathias Sixt represents not only the vigorous and resourceful present of the Miami valley, but also the promising future, particularly in Lemon township, where he is the owner of a valuable and well-cultivated farm. Mr. Sixt was born on a farm in Lemon township, Butler county, O., and is a son of John A. and Magdalena Nichol, natives of Bavaria, Germany. His father was born June 13, 1831, and was still a young man when he emigrated to the United States, taking up his residence first at Bloomington, Ill. He did not remain long there, however, but moved to Marysville, O., and subsequently to Middletown, where he secured a position teaming for the firm of Oglesbee & Barnitz. In 1860, Mr. Sixt became a farmer, when he settled on a property northeast of Middletown, and after fourteen years in that community disposed of his interests and moved to Lemon township, where he was successfully engaged in tilling soil up to the time of his death. He became a man well known and highly respected in his community, where his integrity was proverbial, and where he had many warm friends, who shared in his prosperity, as did also the Lutheran church, of which he was a lifelong member. His first wife, Magdalena Nichol, of Bavaria, died at the age of sixty-four years, and he was again married, his bride being a widow, Mrs. Margaret Nichold, who died in 1902. His children, all by his first wife, were: Barbara, who married Michael Rider, of Middletown; John, a retired farmer of that place; George, also retired from active pursuits and living at Middletown; and Mathias, of this notice. Mathias Sixt attended the common schools of his home community and was trained to agriculture from early youth. He remained under the parental roof until he attained the age of twenty-eight years, and although his competence was still largely a matter of speculation at that time, he entered upon an independent career and formed a household of his own when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Schaefer, February 9, 1887. She was born in Fairfield township, Butler

MATHIAS SIXT AND FAMILY

MR. AND MRS. JOHN A. SIXT

county, O., a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Peift) Schaefer, of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1849 and settled at Hamilton, O., in the vicinity of which place, and in Fairfield township, Mr. Schaefer continued to be engaged in farming until his death in 1914, his widow surviving him until October, 1918. They were faithful members of the Lutheran church and the parents of the following children: Adolph, a farmer of Madison township, Butler county; William, a farmer in the same county, Wayne township; Kate, who married Charles Warner, of Wayne township, and Mary, now Mrs. Sixt. To Mr. and Mrs. Sixt there have been born five children; Carl, who is engaged in agricultural operations in Lemon township; Catherine, who resides with her parents; Walter, also at home; Clara, who attended the home schools, the Middletown schools for two years, and the Woodlawn Normal school for four years, and who for the past three years has been engaged in teaching, now having charge of the orphans' home at Richmond, Ind.; and Jennie, who lives with her parents. All the children were given good educational opportunities, for Mr. Sixt has always been a friend of education and recognizes its benefits. After his marriage, Mr. Sixt settled down to farming operations on his present property of 109 acres, located in Lemon township, where he has since been highly successful as a general farmer. In addition he raises some stock and is successful in this way also, and his business reputation is of the best. During the time he has resided on his present property, he has displayed his progressive spirit by the installation of numerous improvements, including a fine bank barn, 32x50 feet; a corn crib, 30x28 feet; and a tool house, 16x28 feet, and much tiling and fencing, together with machinery and equipment of a modern character. In line with his expressed friendship for education, he has served as a member of the local board of school directors, and, possessed of sterling traits of character, his career has been in an eminent degree useful to those about him. He is an independent thinker on questions of the day and prefers to form his own opinions as to the merit of any candidate or principle, with the result that he admits allegiance to no political party. His religious faith and that of the members of his family identifies them with the Lutheran church, they attending divine services at Middletown.

James Skillman. In the long and uniformly successful career of James Skillman, for the greater part passed at Middletown, there has been much of a commendable nature as represented by his dealings with his fellow-men. Both in war and peace he has held high ideals as to duty and as one of the honored retired citizens of his community is held in universal respect and esteem. Mr. Skillman was born June 2, 1845, near Lockland, Hamilton county, Ohio, one of the twelve children, six sons and six daughters, born to O. A. and Sarah (McCauley) Skillman. His father, who was born in 1805, in Lehigh county, Pa., was an infant when brought to Ohio by his parents, New Jerseyans, in early days of settlement, and grew up amid pioneer surroundings. He became a substantial and highly esteemed agriculturist of his county, reared his children to lives of

probity and industry, and rounded out an honorable and useful career. He and his wife were devoted members of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Skillman was a staunch Republican of some influence in his community. Of the twelve children in the family, all are now deceased with the exception of James and his twin brother, Stephen S. Skillman, also a retired citizen of Middletown. These brothers fought in the same company and regiment during the Civil war and have remained practically inseparable ever since. Richard M. and John Skillman fought as members of Company E, Eighty-third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the former dying about eight months after enlistment, while the latter went through the war safely but died about four years later from causes ascribed to the hardships and privations of the service. James H. Willis, who was reared by Mr. and Mrs. Skillman from the time he was an infant, fought throughout the war as a member of Company G, Sixth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and in later life became a well-known and highly esteemed business man of Cincinnati and died at Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1916. James Skillman received his education in the country public schools and at Lockland, and was about sixteen years old when, in September, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army for service during the Civil war, he and his twin brother Stephen S., becoming members of Company A, Seventy-fifth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. After three years and four months of brave and faithful service, he received his honorable discharge and returned to the farm, but eventually came to Middletown, where, in 1875, he became the first city policeman. This position he retained for six years, and made a most capable officer. In 1886 he embarked in the grocery business, on the corner of Main and Third streets, Middletown, and conducted this enterprise with success for some years, and was later also identified with a boot and shoe business, but as advancing years came he eventually retired from active affairs, and is now living quietly in his comfortable home at No. 530 Young street. Mr. Skillman is a staunch Republican, but while a good citizen is not a politician and has had no wish to enter the public arena. He was married June 3, 1867, to Ella G. Hand, daughter of I. F. and Catherine (Littell) Hand. Mr. Hand was a New Jerseyan, who, on leaving his native state, went first to New Orleans, as a lad of eighteen years, and in 1842 came to Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Skillman have had three children: Harry H.; Ida May, who is deceased; and Irene McCauley, now the wife of Perry Davis, of Middletown, with four children, Lucile, Dorothy, Paul and James. Mr. Skillman is a member of the G. A. R.

Stephen S. Skillman, a retired citizen of Middletown, and an honored veteran of the Civil war, was engaged in various business ventures at Middletown for many years, but recently has retired from active affairs. He was born near Lockland, Hamilton county, Ohio, June 2, 1845, a son of O. A. and Sarah (McCauley) Skillman. The father was a native of Lehigh county, Pa., of New Jersey parentage, and was still an infant when brought to Hamilton county by his parents in 1805. Here he married Sarah McCauley, and they became the parents of six sons and six daughters, in addition to

which children they reared as their own son, James H. Willis, who entered their hearts and home when a babe. Stephen S. and James Skillman are twins and served in the same company of Ohio Volunteers during the Civil war. Richard M. and John Skillman fought as members of Company E, 83d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the former dying about eight months after enlistment, while the latter went through the war successfully but died about four years after peace was declared. James H. Willis was in Company G, 6th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, fighting throughout the period of hostilities, and subsequently became a well known and respected resident of Hamilton, where his death took place in 1916. The father of these children was an industrious and successful farmer of his community and became the owner of a highly-cultivated and valuable property. He and his wife were faithful members of the Presbyterian church, while Mr. Skillman was a Republican in high standing in his community. Stephen S. Skillman received a public school education, first attending the country schools in the neighborhood of his father's farm and later going to the more advanced school at Lockland. In September, 1861, when only a little over sixteen years of age, he, with his twin brother James, enlisted in Company A, 75th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which they served three years and four months. Mr. Skillman made an excellent record as a soldier, both for faithful performance of duty and for bravery in action, and when he returned to civil life it was with added self-reliance brought about through army life and discipline. After spending some years on the farm, he turned his attention to mercantile affairs, and various enterprises had the benefit of his ability and industry. In nearly all of his operations as a business man he was associated with his brother James, and their name became known as a synonym for integrity and fair dealing in commercial transactions. Mr. Skillman was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church and has always adhered to its teachings. He has been a lifelong Republican, but his interest in public affairs is largely confined to the casting of his vote for good men and beneficial measures.

George Calvin Skinner, M. D. It is a distinct honor and one of which he might well feel proud for a man to know that he is the oldest physician in point of practice in the community in which he lives. Dr. George C. Skinner of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, bears this distinction and it is interesting to note that during the many years that he has practiced his profession in this city he has endeared himself not only to the scores of men, women and children to whom he has ministered professionally, but also to the other townsfolk as a physician of unusual ability and a citizen whose word is as good as his bond. It may be truthfully said of him that he is not only one of the ablest physicians of Hamilton, but he is also one of the most conscientious in looking after the welfare of patients and the enviable success that he has had has been well merited. The reputation that he achieved early in his career for honesty and integrity have been admirably perpetuated and it must, indeed, be gratifying to him to know that, in the closing years of his life, he enjoys the best

wishes of the community. He was born in Hamilton, Butler county, in 1856, the seventh of ten children of John Calvin and Jane (H.) Skinner. But four of these children are now living: Walter M.; Sarah, wife of Daniel M. Kennedy; Frank and Dr. George Skinner. The father was born in Batavia, Ohio, in 1816, and came to Hamilton in 1836. He was a civil engineer and followed his profession for several years, later engaging in the manufacture of paper, the firm of which he was a member being known as McGuire & Skinner. He was active in this field from 1850 to 1889, when he retired. He was recognized as an alert business man who was determined to give the best of service at all times and the success that he had in this regard is best borne out by the uniform and consistent development of his business. In days gone by the firm with which he was identified was known as one of the most progressive in the manufacture of paper in that section of the country and each year of its existence enjoyed a marked increase in business. The mother, born in Hamilton in 1823, was the daughter of Israel Gregg, at one time sheriff of Butler county and in his time one of the most highly regarded citizens of that community. Doctor Skinner was well equipped to assume the responsibilities of life in the city in which he was born, as he was fortified with the prestige of a respected parentage and personally had the opportunities of a thorough education. He was graduated from the high school in 1872, after attending the grammar school at Hamilton, later attending Miami Medical college, where he received his degree in medicine in 1879. He served one year as interne in the Cincinnati General hospital in Cincinnati, retiring in 1879 to take up the private practice of medicine. He met with success from the outset and in the course of a few years developed a lucrative practice which has increased from year to year. He has membership in the county and state medical societies, also the Union District Medical society, of which organization he has been president. He was also president of the Butler County Medical society, his administration of the affairs of this organization having been such that its prestige was furthered materially. In 1898, he was a member of the board of education of Hamilton. His wife was Miss Alice M. Phillips, daughter of Major Alfred Phillips. Four children were born to them: Cornelia, who became the wife of Dr. Malcolm Bronson, and being the mother of two children, Dorothy and Robert; Dan Millikin, who married Bess Eigher, and who is practicing medicine with his father; John Calvin, who married Helen Shaffer, and who is the father of three children: Bettie Jane, Virginia and George C.; and George P. who married Florence Murphy and who is the father of one child, George D. Doctor Skinner is a Republican in politics and an Elk.

Thomas E. Slade, a successful farmer and stock raiser of Butler county, and a representative of one of the oldest and best known pioneer families of the county, where he is a scion of the third generation, is the owner of a fine stock farm of 307 acres, in Fairfield township, the place being improved with excellent buildings. Mr. Slade was born on the old Slade homestead in Fairfield township, Butler county, July 8, 1860. The Slades were among the early

pioneers of Ohio, where they took up land in Liberty township. Micajah Slade, one of the Slade family, was born on this pioneer homestead and received the advantages of the common schools of the period. In 1848, he purchased eighty acres of land in Fairfield township, and the greater part of this he reclaimed from the virgin forest, as did he also much of the land which he later purchased, his holdings at one time having aggregated 570 acres. He long continued as one of the most prominent and influential agriculturists and stock growers of his native country. He served two terms as county commissioner, and during a service of about twenty years as township trustee he did much to further progressive movements in the county, including that of constructing gravel roads. He was long in service as a member of the school board of his district and was the prime force back of the movements which resulted in the erection of the present school building at Stockton and also the church edifice known as the Valley chapel, about the year 1860. This sterling and valued citizen passed from the stage of life's mortal endeavors in the year 1892, his wife having preceded him to eternal rest. The public schools of Fairfield township afforded Thomas E. Slade his preliminary educational advantages, and thereafter he was for some time a student in the Lebanon Normal school. After leaving this institution he was associated in the work and management of his father's farm until 1882, when he married and settled on a farm of 122 acres, where he gave his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of live stock. There he continued operations until 1893, when he removed to his present model farm, though at that time it was represented in only seventy acres. Here he gave special attention to stock feeding, and of this feature of farm enterprise he has since continued to make a specialty, the while he has increased the area of his farm property until he now has a valuable estate of 307 acres. On his stock farm Mr. Slade feeds an average of from 250 to 300 head of cattle and about as many hogs each year, and he is an authoritative judge of stock values, with the result that he has done much to improve the grades of live stock in the county. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party, and he served twelve years as president of the school board of his district, besides which he was one of the originators of the movement that resulted in the establishing of the first community church in Butler county. He was one of the organizers of the Eaton Packing company, of Hamilton, and has served as president of the same from its inception. In 1882, Mr. Slade wedded Miss Hattie A. Seward, who is survived by two children, Edna and Homer. Edna is the wife of George Stroh and they have one child, Margaret. Homer first married Miss Pear Ross, and after her death he wedded Miss Ada Shortman. They have two children, Estelle and Ruth. For his second wife Thomas E. Slade married Miss Clara B. Shannon, and they have five children: Marie, Albert, Clara, Charles and Thomas. Mrs. Slade is the gracious and popular chatelaine of one of the attractive rural homes of the county and has made the same a center of generous hospitality.

Samuel Wilson Slagle, whose connection with the American

Rolling mill extends back to 1909, in which year he first arrived at Middletown, is a native son of Ohio, born at Pemberton, Shelby county, November 27, 1872, a son of Albert and Harriet (Wilson) Slagle. The father is still making his home at Piqua, while the mother died December 1, 1874. There were ten children in the family: one who died in infancy; John W. and Frank, residents of Warren county; Fred and Glenn, of Toledo; Mrs. Muriel Stein and Mrs. Nannie Rengel of Piqua; Raymond, who was in the U. S. service during the war; Samuel W.; and Miss Helen, of Piqua. To the public schools of Pemberton and Piqua, Samuel W. Slagle is indebted for his educational training. He was reared at the latter place, where he learned his trade and there commenced working in a rolling mill. March 29, 1900, he married Olive A. Richardson, who was born May 6, 1876, daughter of Warren and Louise (Lea) Richardson, of Piqua. To this union there were born two children: Samuel Richardson, born in 1905; and now attending high school at Middletown; and Oscar Wilson, born in 1910, who is in the graded school. In 1909, Mr. Slagle left Piqua and came to Middletown, where he at once entered the American Rolling Mill as a heater, a position which he has since retained. On his arrival he established himself in a pretty residence on Superior street, and had an exceedingly happy home until the death of his wife, May 16, 1917, which caused him an irreparable loss. Mrs. Slagle was a woman of lovely, Christian character, a devoted mother and faithful helpmeet and a consistent and devout member of the Christian church. Mr. Slagle is also a member of this church and belongs fraternally to the local lodge of Odd Fellows; in his political belief he is a Republican.

P. M. Sater, M. D., was born in Crosby township, Hamilton county, Ohio, January 25, 1869, son of Martin and Mary Sater, both of Hamilton county. John Sater, his grandfather was among the early settlers of that county, coming from New Jersey. He was the father of three children; Hannah, of California; Judge John E. Sater of Columbus, Ohio, and Martin, father of the subject of our sketch, and who has followed farming all his life, living on the same farm in Crosby township since 1854. In this family were five children, who grew to maturity; C. H. Sater, of Hamilton, veterinary surgeon; L. F. Sater of Columbus; Daisy, at home; M. W. Sater of Chicago, and our subject. Dr. Sater received his early education in the country schools of Hamilton county and at New London, Ohio, after which he attended the Ohio Medical college, at Cincinnati. Soon after receiving his degree in 1893, he located in Winchester, Ohio, where he began the practice of medicine. He was married in 1895 to Mayme Scott, daughter of J. W. Scott. In 1905, he decided to remove to Hamilton, where he opened an office on the west side in which location he has continued his practice. Dr. Sater has always been progressive in his chosen profession, having three times attended the Polytechnic Clinics in Chicago, and been honored with the presidency of the Union District Medical society of Butler county. He is also a member of the Ohio State, and the American Medical societies. In politics, Dr. Sater is a firm believer in the teachings of the Democratic party.

Fenton Slifer, secretary and treasurer of the Slifer Packing company, of Hamilton, Ohio, was born in Butler county, March 7, 1872. He was the son of John and Kate Slifer who were also the parents of Ross Slifer, president of the Slifer Packing company, and whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. He received his education in this county, attending the Ohio Commercial college at Hamilton, Ohio. After leaving school he went to work at the Fairgrove Paper mills where he remained for two and a half years. He then went to the Fordham Paper mills where he worked as a back tender and finisher for about two years. Desiring to make a change in his business affairs, he engaged in the meat business with his brother Ross. Success crowned their combined efforts, and it was not long until they owned and operated four retail stores. They then organized the Slifer Packing company, of which the subject of this sketch became the secretary and treasurer. This modern packing plant which has a cold storage plant for its own use, is situated on the corner of C and Millikin streets, and is the center of a growing wholesale business. In 1907, they built the well equipped meat market on the west side which they use for their headquarters. He was married to Susan Garver, daughter of Samuel B. and Kate Garver. They have no children. In politics he is a Democrat.

Ross Slifer, president of Slifer Packing company, of Hamilton, Ohio, was born near LaFayete, Ind., in 1866. He was the son of John and Kate Slifer, natives of Ohio, who moved to Indiana, but after remaining for a time returned to Ohio, locating in Butler county. They were the parents of nine children: DeWitt, Porter, Clara, Ross, Otto, Fenton, Clyde, Orville and Van. Here the subject of this sketch received his early education and grew to young manhood assisting his father on the farm, and remaining with him until 1891 when he moved to Hamilton to engage in business for himself. Entering the meat business he opened a butcher shop on the west side which venture proved so successful that later, with his brother Fenton he formed the Slifer Packing company, and now, in addition to their modern packing plant, they own and operate four large retail butcher shops in this city, enjoying a large wholesale and retail business. Mr. Slifer is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and in politics is an independent Republican. In 1893, he was married to Emma B. Foreman and to this union were born three children: Ferman, Ada and John.

George O. Sloneker, who has been connected with the office of the sheriff of Butler county at Hamilton since 1909, is one of the public officials of this county who has rendered faithful and efficient service to the people. He was born at Collinsville, Ohio, August 31, 1868, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Williams) Sloneker, and a grandson on the paternal side of a native of Alsace-Lorraine who came to the United States in 1824, and on the maternal side of Virginia and Kentucky. Settling in Milford township, Butler county, where he was subsequently married, the grandfather pursued both farming and the grocery business, the latter at Collinsville, and rounded out a long, successful and honorable career. Jacob Sloneker was born near Somerville, Ohio, on a farm, and was a young man when his

career was abruptly interrupted by the outbreak of the Civil war. He enlisted in the 2d Ohio Heavy Artillery, with which he served until honorably discharged, and had many hardships during his army life, on one occasion being nearly frozen to death while detailed on guard duty in southern Indiana. After receiving his honorable discharge he went to Collinsville, where he was married in 1867 to Sarah Williams, who was born in 1846, at Terre Haute, Ind., and moved to Hamilton with her mother and sisters in 1861. Her stepfather was a soldier of the Civil war and a veteran of the Mexican war, while her mother served as a nurse in the War between the States. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Sloneker settled at Collinsville, where the father was for many years engaged in stone and cement contracting and in 1891 moved to Oxford, Ohio, where he and his wife now live in comfortable retirement. They are the parents of the following children: George O.; Charles E., engaged in the real estate business at Hamilton; Albine, of Oxford, an inspector for the state highway commission; and Ethel, who has attended Oxford college, engaged in social and church work, and residing with her parents. George O. Sloneker was educated primarily at the public schools and did special work at the Y. M. C. A., and his first employment was in the general offices of a railway company at Cincinnati. Later he went to Oxford, where for a time he studied law with Daniel B. Vermilye, but did not continue in that profession, turning his attention instead to the real estate business, in which he was engaged for a time at Cincinnati. This was followed by six years of experience in the employ of the United States Express company, and in 1909 he took up his work in the office of the sheriff of Butler county, at Hamilton, where he has since been employed under Sheriffs Andrew Graff, Harry Metcalf and F. E. Pepper. He is accounted a reliable, conscientious and thoroughly efficient official and has the confidence of the people and the respect and friendship of his associates. Mr. Sloneker was married in 1914 to Edith May, daughter of B. F. and Ellen M. Pierce, of Arcanum, Ohio, and they have one child: George O., jr., born December 10, 1915. Mr. Sloneker is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of Moose and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. During the period of the United States' participation in the Great war, Mr. Sloneker was captain of the First Ward Team in Red Cross work and other war drives. Mrs. Sloneker is a member of the Baptist church, where she has many congenial friends.

Robert W. Smart, prominent horseman and extensive farmer in Union township, is a native of Ohio, born in Clinton county, October 4, 1866, son of Henry and Mary (Thomas) Smart. The father was born at Bristol, England, where he lived until twenty-one years of age, in the meanwhile learning the trade of chimneyman, then came to the United States and located in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, although at a later period he bought a farm in Clinton county, it was mainly because he desired his children to be reared in the country, for he continued his work as a chimneyman in the city as long as he was in active life. Of his family of nine children the following are

living: Harris, Charles, Robert W., Mary and Elizabeth. Robert W. Smart grew up on his father's farm in Clinton county, which bordered the Warren county line and thus gave him an opportunity of attending the public schools in both counties, and he continued a student until he was graduated from the high school. For two years afterward he followed farming on the home place, then went to Lebanon, Ohio, as he had been appointed deputy sheriff, in which office he served six years. Mr. Smart then established himself at Wyoming, Ohio, going into the horse business, in which industry he has been extensively concerned ever since, dealing in fancy and fast road horses and at times has owned some noted prize winners, for he has exhibited his horses in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. It was not unusual for him to bear off prizes when he had such fine animals to display as Black Mat and May Bird, which, in their day, were distinguished for speed. In addition to his horse business, Mr. Smart is now giving much attention to his farm of 258 acres, and is particularly well pleased with the results from his sixty-acre alfalfa tract. Mr. Smart married Ella, daughter of Stephen Howard, and they have four children. In politics, Mr. Smart is a Republican, and he is serving very usefully as a member of the Butler County Fair board. For many years he has been a Mason, a member of the Blue lodge at Sharonville, Ohio.

Clement D. Smedley, M. D. Aside from the achievements which he has attained in the regular practice of his profession at Hamilton, Dr. Clement D. Smedley has the distinction of having risen to the highest rank of any man in Butler county in the United States Medical Corps. His overseas record during the World war was a splendid one and his services won him promotion to the rank of major. Doctor Smedley was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, December 7, 1875, a son of Clement and Amelia Smedley, who came to Hamilton when their son was a small child. Here he obtained his education in the public schools, graduating from the high school in 1894, and when the Spanish-American war broke out enlisted in the 1st Louisiana Volunteer Infantry. He was engaged for six months in that struggle, and on his return became a railroader for a short time. In 1899 he entered the Ohio Medical college, at Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in 1903 with the degree of M. D., and began practice at Higginsport, Brown county, Ohio, where he remained until 1915. Doctor Smedley then established himself at Lindenwald and was there actively engaged until April, 1918, when he secured a commission as first lieutenant in the United States Medical Corps. While in this country he was stationed at Camps Greenleaf and Mills, and was then sent to Liverpool, England, where he arrived June 15, 1918. From there he was sent to Le Havre, France, and then transferred to Blois, then to St. Nazaire, where he was serving as chief of the medical staff of Base Hospital 101, when promoted to major, having been formerly promoted to captain November 20, 1918. The promotion to the rank of major, which came in May, 1919, while he was at St. Nazaire, France, gave him the distinction of having attained the highest rank in the army of any man from Butler county during the war. Doctor Smedley received his hon-

orable discharge in June, 1919, and returned to Hamilton, where he has since been engaged in the general practice of his calling. He has an excellent professional business and is highly regarded by his fellow-practitioners and much esteemed by his clientele. He is a valued member of the County, State and National medical bodies, and fraternizes with the Masons and Moose. As a voter he supports the principles of the Democratic party. Doctor Smedley was married in 1902 to Miss Mabel Vance, and they are the parents of two children: Margaret and Clement V.

Allen Clayton Smith, the owner of a handsome and valuable property in Ross township, was born in Reily township, Butler county, Ohio, August 6, 1873, a son of Roll and Mary E. (Bowman) Smith. Roll Smith was born in Hanover township, this county, a son of Thomas Smith and his wife, who had been a Miss Elkins, and there grew to manhood. When the Civil war came on he answered the call of his country and enlisted in the Union army, fighting bravely with an Ohio Volunteer Infantry regiment until receiving a serious wound which incapacitated him for further service. He then returned to Reily township, where during the rest of his life he divided his time between farming and following the carpenter's trade. Mary E. Bowman was born near Uniontown, Pa., and as a young girl was taken by her parents, George and Lydia (Roderick) Bowman, to Benton, Mo., where she lived for some years. While on a visit to the home of her sister, in Butler county, she met and married Mr. Smith, and they became the parents of two sons: Allen Clayton and David. David, who resides at Mount Healthy, Ohio, married Minnie Pierson, and they are the parents of one child, Audrey. Educated as were most farmers' sons of his day and community, in the district schools of Reily township, when he completed his studies Allen C. Smith began farming in association with his father. Later he went to Missouri, where he spent about two years in St. Charles county, but then returned to Venice, Ohio, where he was married in 1891 to Ada J., daughter of Frederick and Julia (Patorning) Shocke, the former a native of Franklin County, Ind., and the latter of Cincinnati, Ohio, of French descent. Mr. and Mrs. Shocke were the parents of four children: Ada J., Josephine, Mary and Joseph. At the time of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Smith first settled in Reily township, where they resided for six years, moving then to Oxford township and spending four years there. For the eight years that followed they lived on a farm east of Millville, in Ross township, and in 1919 came to their present property of 109 acres, the old Lutes farm, near Venice. His farm is one of the most valuable in its locality, and its product affords a handsome income for the owner. Mr. Smith's life has been an open one as well as useful, and he has won the regard and esteem of his follow men. Mr. Smith is a Democrat in politics. During the war period he was a generous contributor to all activities, including war stamp, liberty bonds and the Red Cross. He and Mrs. Smith are the parents of four children: Ruth, Ilo, Earl and Fred R.

D. B. Smith. Among the numerous prosperous agriculturists of Butler county there are to be found many who have never left

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the home farm for any extended period. Here they have found contentment and prosperity in the daily round of duties, with the added responsibilities that advancement in their vocation brings and with the care pertaining to the rearing of their families to lives of honesty and industry, the home ties being so strong as to preclude the idea of their being broken through the attractions of other communities. In this class is found D. B. Smith, of St. Clair township, a well-to-do and substantial citizen, who has passed a useful, industrious and well-lived career on the property on which he was born in 1858, a son of Reuben and Mary Ann (Bertch) Smith. This branch of the Smith family is an old and honored one in Butler county, and was founded here by the grandfather of D. B. Smith, who bought 112 acres of land upon his arrival in St. Clair township and who was the builder of the present house. A brother of the grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, and had fought under Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne against the British and Indians. Like her husband's family, Mary Ann Bertch came from Pennsylvania, her birth having occurred in Lehigh county, that state. She married Reuben Smith in St. Clair township, Butler county, and moved to a place three miles north of the present home of their son, but subsequently took up their residence in Wayne township, where they resided for seventeen years, eventually moving to the old home place in St. Clair township. They were the parents of the following children: Isaac M., living near the home place, who married Mollie Wehr; Joshua M., who is deceased; Eliza Jane, also deceased; Mary R., who resides with her brother, D. B., and is unmarried; and D. B. Mrs. Anna (Marks) Smith, widow of Joshua M. Smith, resides in Wayne township and is the mother of one child, Day, who is a librarian at Cincinnati. After leaving the public schools, D. B. Smith worked on the home farm until his marriage, in 1898, to Elizabeth Gentry, of Oxford, a daughter of Henry Gentry. Following their marriage they settled down on the home place, which is now owned by Mr. Smith, who is carrying on extensive operations in farming and stock raising in a successful way. He uses practical and progressive methods and has good improvements on his property, which is one of the modern and productive ones of his locality. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Smith has exerted some influence in the ranks of his party in his section, and for fifteen or sixteen years has advanced the cause of education as a member of the board of school directors. In other ways he has shown his good citizenship, especially during the great war, when he was a generous subscriber to bonds, war savings stamps, the Red Cross, etc. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Carl J., who is employed as a mechanic at Hamilton; Amanda May, who is attending the Hamilton High school; and Mary Ethel, who has been given specialized instruction and is now an accomplished reader and elocutionist.

David L. Smith. Among the substantial citizens of Butler county is David L. Smith. He is one of the progressive agriculturists of Reily township, where he makes his home on a 160-acre farm. Mr. Smith was born on this farm, the homestead place of his

parents, John W. and Catherine (Warfield) Smith, the former a native of Reily township and the latter of Rush county, Ind. The paternal grandparents were early settlers of Butler county, of Irish extraction, while the Warfield family, pioneers of Rush county, Ind., were of sturdy Pennsylvania-Dutch origin. The parents of Mr. Smith were married near Millville, Ohio, and following their union lived on the farm which is now occupied and operated by their son. They were highly respected people and devoted themselves unreservedly to the task of developing their property and making a home for their children. In his younger years the father was a staunch Whig, and when that party went out of existence became a Democrat. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of which nine grew to maturity: Evelyn, deceased, who passed her life as a resident of Reily township; Joseph B., who died in 1918; Margaret, a resident of California; Rebecca, who died in the Philippine Islands; Phoebe J., who is Mrs. Moorhead, of Reily township; J. W., who is successfully operating a farm in Reily township; David L., of this review; Kate, a resident of Lindenwald, Ohio; and Dr. H. H., who lives south of Oxford. David L. Smith received his education in the public schools of Reily township, and has always lived on the old home place, of which he is now the owner. This property consists of 160 acres, in addition to which he has another eighty acres to the north, and both of these farms prove conclusively that he is possessed of the proper requirements for successful participation in agriculture. In politics he is a Democrat, and he and the members of his family are Presbyterians in religious faith, and he justly deserves the high regard in which he is held. Mr. Smith was married October 27, 1878, to Anna J., daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (Salsburg) Henry, the former born in Pennsylvania and the latter a native of Butler county, Ohio. As a young man, Mr. Henry came to this county and settled down to farming, which he followed all his life, in addition to which he devoted some of his time and energy to work as a minister of the Presbyterian church, frequently appearing in the local pulpits. The Salsburgs were old settlers in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Henry, who rounded out their lives on their Reily township farm, were the parents of three children: one who died in infancy; Halsey E., who married Lizzie Clark and died at Hamilton; and Anna J., who became Mrs. Smith. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Effie May, who attended Oxford university, and is now the wife of Field S. Conn, of Franklin county, Ind., with one child,—Ray; Grace Marie, the wife of Thomas Conn, of the same community, with one child,—Marie; and Homer H., a graduate of Oxford university, who married Iva Gates of Mount Carmel, Ohio, and is identified with the Exide Battery company, of Rochester, N. Y.

Edward Smith. Prior to founding his present business, known as the Dixie Highway garage, Edward Smith was widely known in the tobacco business through his connection with Col. Isaac Hale, the "Tobacco King" of Middletown. Since founding his automobile establishment, Mr. Smith has added to his long list of business

acquaintances and has continued to maintain his reputation as one of his city's most prominent, as well as most popular, business citizens. He was born at Glendale, Ohio, September 15, 1864, and was but twelve years of age when he was left an orphan. He had only meager educational advantages and was forced to make his own way, but his honesty, determination and industry carried him safely through this hard period of life, and he emerged a strong and self-reliant man, capable of holding his own in the face of stern competition. Following his marriage, in 1891, Mr. Smith went to Chicago, where he spent three years in mercantile ventures, then returning to Middletown to become associated with his father-in-law, Col. Isaac Hale. Colonel Hale was not only one of the wealthy tobacco men of Middletown, but was also for many years one of the leaders of the Republican party in this part of the state. At the time of his death, in 1914, Mr. Smith disposed of his interests and holdings in the tobacco business, and established the Dixie Highway garage, an enterprise that has proved greatly successful. His place of business, on North Main street, has grown and developed extensively under the urge of the proprietor's industry and business ability, and is now accounted one of the prominent establishments of the city and a leader in its special line. Mr. Smith is a man of large heart, who has made himself popular by his business methods and integrity. He is a staunch Republican, and his fraternal connections include membership in the Masons and Elks. Their home, on South Main street, is one of Middletown's handsome residences. September 12, 1891, at the Methodist Episcopal parsonage, at Middletown, Mr. Smith was married by the Reverend Vance, to Lulu E., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Hale, of this city, and three children have been born to this union: Hale, born in 1893; Eddie W., born in 1895; and Irene D., born in 1898. The children have excellent war records. Hale volunteered in November, 1917, in the 211th Aero Squadron; Eddie subsequently joined the 226th Field Artillery, and Irene was employed in the War Risk Bureau, at Washington, D. C.

F. G. Smith, M. D., physician and surgeon, was born near Hamilton, Ohio, on a farm, March 8, 1885, the son of Jacob and Margaret (Schwarm) Smith. Jacob Smith was a native of Germany, while his wife was born in Reily township, Butler county, Ohio. He came to this country with his parents when four years of age, and they settled near Hamilton, in Hanover township. After marriage, Jacob Smith and wife settled on the old Frechtling homestead in Hanover township, five years later removed to Reily township, which was their home for nearly thirty-five years, until in 1916 they retired and moved to Reily. To Jacob and Margaret Smith were born four children: Henry, who lives on the old farm; Dr. F. G. Smith, the subject of this sketch; William Smith, now a resident of Hamilton, Ohio, and one daughter, deceased. Doctor Smith was educated in the common schools of Butler county, and at Miami university, also the department of medicine at the University of Cincinnati. After his graduation in 1910 he was appointed assistant surgeon at the Soldiers' home at Sandusky, Ohio, for four

years. Then he went to New York and took a post-graduate course in his chosen field of effort, and located in Reily in 1916. He specialized in children's diseases and obstetrics. Doctor Smith is well known in the western part of Butler county and his practice extends into Franklin county, Ind., being frequently called in consultations in addition to his regular practice. During the great war he served as a member of the Medical Reserve corps. Doctor Smith is also prominent in fraternal as well as professional circles. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Masons. His is a high type of citizenship and his services to the community in which he lives cannot be too greatly emphasized in its value to his fellow-men.

Harry H. Smith, M. D. Good birth and breeding, augmented by the best general and professional training obtainable, contribute to the present success of Dr. Harry H. Smith, a prominent medical and surgical practitioner of Oxford. Doctor Smith is a man of superior ability who brought with him to Oxford in 1903 an earnest and clearly defined purpose, and who has developed about him that atmosphere of intellectual and moral refinement peculiar to those families which trace their ancestors back for many generations in this country. Doctor Smith was born at Riley, Ohio, January 16, 1862, a son of John W. and Catherine (Warfield) Smith, natives of Butler county, as were also the grandparents. The family traces its ancestry back to Pocahontas, and its founders in Ohio were the great-grandparents, who located in Riley township, Butler county, where subsequent generations have been honest tillers of the soil and people honored and respected by their fellow-citizens. James Smith, the grandfather of the Doctor, served for five years in the regular United States Army, following which he took up farming, but his career was cut short by an early death. He married Phoebe Bartlow, and they became the parents of these children: John W., the father of Dr. Harry H.; James, who died young; Martha, who became Mrs. Martha Crane and lived in Missouri; and Amos, who served as a soldier in the Mexican war, during which he carried a sword that is now in the possession of the son of Doctor Smith. John W. Smith was a farmer throughout his career, and died in 1893, at the age of seventy-six years, on the farm adjoining his original property. His widow survived him for many years, passing away in 1912, when she had reached the advanced age of ninety-four. They were the parents of the following children: Eva, who married Oliver Beard and died in Riley township; Joseph, who married Jean Brown; John, who died in infancy; Phoebe; Margaret, who first married Oliver Beard and later Chris Sloneker, who lives in California; James, who first married Annie Samuels and later Maggie Boyd; David, on the home farm, who married Anna Henry; Van Landingham, who died in infancy; Mary, who also died in infancy; Harry H., of this notice; Catherine, who is the widow of Wilson Jones and lives at Hamilton; and Rebecca, who married Alex Bayer, a noted artist and portrait painter who died at Manila, P. I., where she now makes her home. The early education of Dr. Harry H. Smith was secured in the public schools of his native place and the high school at Shannon, following which he

attended Miami university. He was graduated from the Ohio Medical college at Cincinnati in 1883, and at once entered upon the practice of his calling at Riley, where he remained until 1903, then coming to Oxford. He has acquired a practice as gratifying personally as it is financially, is genial and approachable in manner, skillful in diagnosis and treatment, and has completely won the confidence of even the most conservative members of the community. In 1907 he built his present magnificent residence on South Main street. Doctor Smith takes a keen interest in civic affairs as a good and public-spirited citizen, and has many important connections, business, social and professional. He was married in 1887 to Sarah Louise, daughter of Robert and Catherine (Balser) Gillespie, and they have one son, Parke Gillespie, born August 13, 1890. After attending the public schools and graduating from Miami university, Parke G. Smith took up his medical studies in the medical department of the University of Cincinnati. Prior to this he had been secretary to Mr. Gamble, of the firm of Procter & Gamble, and while so engaged was united in marriage, June 27, 1912, with Iva Irene Stock, of West Alexandria, Ohio, daughter of John P. and Bertha C. Stock. Shortly thereafter he took up his medical studies and in 1917 was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He was house surgeon of Christ Hospital for one year and then associated himself with Dr. G. F. McKim, of Cincinnati, but his practice was interrupted by the great war, and July 13, 1918, he entered military service and was assigned to Fort Oglethorpe, later going to Fort Logan, Ark., and then to Charleston Port Terminal, S. C. He had the rank of first lieutenant in the regular army, and was commissioned captain of the Medical Reserve Corps, and received his honorable discharge May 13, 1919. At the expiration of his military service he rejoined Doctor McKim, with whom he is associated in the Union Central building, Cincinnati, in practice as a specialist in genito-urinary work, in which he had also specialized while in the army. He is a Mason and a member of the college fraternities of Phi Delta Theta and Alpha Kappa Kappa.

Isaac Milton Smith. In the pioneer days of Butler county, when the country was wild and the settlers few and far between, the Smith family became identified with its history. Since then its members, for the most part sturdy agriculturists, have evidenced the possession of the characteristics of industry, energy, honesty and fidelity, qualities reflected in the person and career of one of the worthy representatives of this family, Isaac Milton Smith, a well know farmer of St. Clair township. Mr. Smith was born in the township in which he now resides, in section 1, January 21, 1850, a son of Reuben and Mary (Bertz) Smith. His grandfather, Daniel Smith, of Pennsylvania, was the first of the family to come to Ohio, settling in St. Clair township, then a wild country, where he cleared a farm and made a home. He was a well known and highly respected citizen who made a success of his life work, and in his declining years retired from active labor and moved to Seven Mile, where his death occurred. He married Mary Ann Jacoby, and

they had eight children: Mrs. Mary Busendark, Mrs. Lydia Warwick, Mrs. Sallie Hitchcock, Mrs. Elizabeth McNair; Joel, Daniel, Henry and Reuben. Reuben Smith attended the district schools, but his education was somewhat limited, and resided at home until his marriage, at which time he settled on a farm in section 1, St. Clair township. He later moved to Cotton Run, Wayne township, where he resided for twelve years, following which he purchased his father's home place, upon which he made many improvements. He was a skilled farmer and a good judge of livestock, making a specialty of raising fine horses, and was well and favorably known in his locality. He was a Democrat in politics and a member of the Hickory Flat congregation of the United Brethren church, in the faith of which he died at the age of seventy-six years. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Isaac M.; Joshua, deceased, who was a resident of Wayne township; Daniel, a farmer on the home place in St. Clair township, who married Elizabeth Gentry; Eliza Jane, who died unmarried; and Rosetta, single, who lives with her brother Daniel. The necessity of his working hard in his boyhood and youth in order to assist in the support of the family, he being the eldest son, gave Isaac M. Smith little chance to obtain an education, and the somewhat extensive knowledge which he now possesses and which makes him a practically educated man, has been self-gained. He grew up on the home place and made his residence there until his marriage, March 14, 1900, to Mary A. Wehr, who was born in St. Clair township, a daughter of Enos and Elizabeth (Fetherland) Wehr. Mr. Wehr was born in Pennsylvania and was an early settler of St. Clair township, where he became a prominent man, a successful distiller and a leading farmer. He married September 30, 1841, Elizabeth Fetherland, who was born in St. Clair township, and who died July 22, 1897, and their children were: Nathan, of Oklahoma; Michael, of St. Clair township; Frederick, also of this township; William, deceased; Emmeline S., who married William Craig, of St. Clair township; and Mary A., who became Mrs. Smith. Enos Wehr was born May 2, 1812, and died July 10, 1895. The Wehr family came to Butler county in 1816, the progenitor being Jacob Wehr, of Pennsylvania, grandfather of Mrs. Smith. He was the father of eleven children: Eli, Enos, Nathan, Gabriel, Jacob, Frank, an infant, Polly, Elizabeth, Catherine and Millie. Mrs. Smith's parents were active in the work of the Presbyterian church and were liberal donors to the fund for the building of the Hickory Flat church. Mrs. Smith has five nephews in the army, all in the cavalry: Pvt. Robert Staley, 2d Lieut. Donald Staley, and Pvt. John Staley, all of Carthage, Ind.; 1st Lieut. Roy Craig, and Pvt. Paul C. Billingslea. Following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith located on their present farm, the old Charles Berger place of sixty acres, where Mr. Smith carries on general farming. He has made a success of his operations and is accounted one of the substantial men of his community. Mrs. Smith joined the Lutheran church, April 10, 1887, at Hickory Flat, but she and her husband are now members of the First Presbyterian church of Overpeck, and are active in church work. Mr. Smith is a

Democrat in politics, although not a politician. He is a progressive citizen who shows his public spirit by his support of good movements.

Jacob Smith. Among the old and honored citizens of Middletown, who are now living in comfortable retirement after many years passed in agricultural labors, none is more deserving the rest and comfort which have come to his declining years than is Jacob Smith, an honored resident of Yankee road. For a long period Mr. Smith was one of the industrious farmers in the vicinity of Blue Ball, where through his own effort and good management he became the owner of a valuable property, and at all times in his career, in whatever community he has resided, he has maintained high ideals of citizenship and has joined other public-spirited men in advancing beneficial movements. Mr. Smith was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a son of Jacob and Kate (Leffler) Smith, who were married near Strasbourg, Alsace-Lorraine, in 1848. Following their marriage they emigrated to the United States, first settling at Cincinnati, where, in a colony of his fellow-countrymen, Jacob Smith the elder plied successfully his trade as a maker of wooden shoes. Later he turned his attention to other pursuits. His father, the grandfather of Jacob of this review, was a pioneer settler of the community of Cincinnati, where he built a log cabin on what is now the site of Colerain avenue in that metropolis, burned charcoal for his fire and hunted deer for his food. He passed away many years ago, but not before he had seen the wilderness thickly populated and the old frontier pass away before the rapidly rushing tide of westward immigration. In the family of Jacob and Kate (Leffler) Smith, there were seven children: Joe, Andrew, Jacob, Mary, Lou, Kate and Ben. Jacob Smith received a public school education and when he was ready to begin a career of his own turned to the soil as a means of livelihood. For some years he operated a threshing outfit among the farmers of his locality, in which he is still engaged in the Miami valley. He also owned and cultivated a farm in the locality of Blue Ball, where he developed a valuable and well-improved property and made a comfortable home for his family. He became one of the substantial citizens of that fertile region, and finally retired from active affairs and transferred his residence to Middletown, where he had built a modern home at No. 1515 Yankee road. There he is now surrounded by all the comforts that reward a well-spent life, and is one of the well-to-do and highly esteemed men of his community. He has been a worthy and active worker in the various movements which have served to advance his city. Mr. Smith is a Democrat, but has not been an office-seeker. During the Civil war he was anxious to serve his country, but was too young to take active part, and the family's military honors rested with his brother, Joseph, who fought in the Union Army. April 3, 1874, Mr. Smith was united in matrimony with Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew and Kate (Haig) Weekley, of Dearborn county, Ind., and they became the parents of the following children: Albert Thomas; Anna Cecelia, deceased; Frank Andrew; August, deceased; Catherine Isabel, who married Conrad

Lewing; Jacob, deceased; Martha Jane; Myrtle May, Clarence Jacob and Nora Elizabeth. In addition to their own children, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, through their goodness of heart, took into their home Mary Farries, whom they reared with all the love and devotion of real parents.

John B. Smith. To the time of his retirement to Seven Mile, John B. Smith was one of the most industrious and successful agriculturists of Wayne township, Butler county. He had good judgment, common sense and the commercial capacity well developed, and his career was one in which prosperity rewarded his efforts. Mr. Smith was born August 22, 1842, on the old Smith homestead in Wayne township, a son of Samuel and Ann (Wilson) Smith. His paternal grandfather was Oliver Smith, a native of Pennsylvania of Irish stock, who married Ann Bolton, of English stock, and who came to Ohio in 1802 and settled in Butler county. Taking up his residence in section 30, Wayne township, he was one of the first settlers of that locality, and shared in the early work of development in what was practically a wilderness at that time. Mr. Smith's land was covered with a heavy growth of timber, the removal of which entailed hard and constant labor, and during the early years his surroundings were of a pioneer character, his home a log cabin, and his implements and household effects of the crudest and most primitive order. The early settlers were almost constantly harassed by the Indians, and one of Mr. Smith's sons, Samuel, the father of John B., was carried into captivity by the redskins, but was eventually returned to his home. Wild game was plentiful and formed a large part of the provisions for the family. Oliver Smith and his worthy wife continued to make their home on this property throughout their lives, and in dying left their children well situated as to material things and with the heritage of an honored name. Their children were: Robert, Bolton, John, Samuel and Sarah. Samuel Smith was born in 1803 on the home farm about one year after the arrival of his parents in Butler county, and his boyhood was passed under circumstances that built up and developed his body and instilled in him a spirit of self-reliance, as he had to work out most of his own problems. His education was that of the usual pioneer's son, and his principal school was that of hard work and experience, but he developed into a man of worth and sound caliber and was able to make a success of his life, becoming one of the substantial agriculturists of his locality. He was a Republican in his political views, and he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. They had a family of four children: Mary, who died at the age of thirteen years; Sarah, the widow of Robert McClintock, residing at Oxford, O.; John B.; and Wilson B., who was a farmer of Wayne township, and who died in 1914, leaving a widow, Ann (Patton) Smith, now a resident of Middletown. John B. Smith attended the district schools of Wayne township, following which he received the added advantages of attendance at the academy at Seven Mile, and Miami university, at Oxford. He was reared as a farmer and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until May 2, 1864, when he enlisted in Company D, 167th

Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to West Virginia, above Charlestown, and several other places, his service covering a period of four months. On his return he again engaged in farming on the old home place and remained until 1873, at which time he removed to Seven Mile, this having since been his place of residence. In 1872 Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Rachael Paulin, who was born near Middletown, Ohio, a daughter of Henry and Ellan (Williamson) Paulin, farming people of Madison township, Butler county, the former of whom died in 1881 and the latter in 1900. They had eight children: Jacob, deceased, who married Agnes Wilson, also deceased; Henry C., deceased, who was a farmer, married Jane Long, now a resident of Illinois; Samuel, of Warren county, who married Hannah Post; Mary Ann, the wife of Samuel Cox, of Madison township; Elizabeth, the wife of Gabriel Thomas, of Poast Town, O.; Sarah Jane, deceased, who was the wife of the late Daniel Carney; Elinor, who married Jonathan Wykoff, of Warren county; and Rachael, who is now Mrs. Smith. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: a son who died in infancy; and Mary Edith, the wife of Arthur C. Baird, professor in a high school at Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. Smith has always voted the Republican ticket, and is a member of the Presbyterian church at Seven Mile. He also belongs to Wetzer Post, No. 96, G. A. R. Both he and Mrs. Smith have a wide acquaintance and are highly esteemed wherever they are known.

J. W. Smith, who resides in Reily township, not only owns and operates the home farm of 166 acres, but two other tracts of eighty and forty acres, respectively, and the neat and thrifty appearance of these properties well indicates his careful supervision. Substantial improvements are surrounded by well-tilled fields and all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm are there found. Mr. Smith was born on a farm to the east of the one on which he now resides, in Reily township, Butler county, Ohio, October 4, 1850, a son of John W. and Catherine (Warfield) Smith, the former a native of Reily township and the latter of Rush county, Ind. The paternal grandparents were early settlers of Butler county, of Irish extraction, while the Warfields were pioneers of Rush county, Ind., and were of Pennsylvania-Dutch origin. John W. Smith and Catherine Warfield were married near Millville, and following their union lived on a Reily township farm, where they passed their peaceful and honorable lives in the pursuits of the soil. During his earlier years John W. Smith was a staunch and aggressive Whig, and in later life gave his allegiance to the Democratic party. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom nine grew to maturity: Evelyn, deceased, who passed her life as a resident of Reily township; Joseph B., who died in 1918; Margaret, a resident of California; Rebecca, who died in the Philippine Islands; Phoebe J., who is Mrs. Moorhead, of Reily township; J. W., of this notice; David L., of Reily township; Kate, a resident of Lindenwald, Ohio; and Dr. H. H., a practicing physician residing in Oxford. J. W. Smith procured his educational training in district school No. 9, and divided his boyhood and youth between his studies

and his labor on the home farm. After leaving school he farmed for his father and also resided at Hamilton for three years, and in 1875 purchased the farm which he now owns, and which consists of 166 acres of valuable land, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation under his capable management and industrious efforts. With the exception of the residence, all of the buildings on this property have been erected by Mr. Smith, and in the meantime he has also found the inclination to supervise the operation of two other farms, of eighty and forty acres, which, like his home place, have an air of prosperity that evidences his capable management. Mr. Smith was married in 1874, when he was united with Anna M., daughter of Gilbert and Rebecca Samuel, of Peoria, Ind. Four children were born to this union: Gilbert D., an agriculturist living one mile north of Mixersville, Ind., who married Winnie Hitchener and has one child,—George; Katie, the wife of William Reardon, living one mile east of her father's home, with one child,—Smith; Lula, the wife of Edward Hughes, cashier of the First National Bank of Hamilton, with one son,—James; and Harry L., a farmer six miles north of Hamilton, who married Verna VanNess, and have six children: Anna May, Catherine, Emery, James T., Mabel L. and Harry, jr. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Margaret May, daughter of Hughie and Ella Boyd, of Cedar Grove, Franklin county, Ind. They have no children. The Democratic party finds Mr. Smith a staunch supporter of its principles, and he takes a deep interest in public affairs, having served twenty-five years as a member of the school board and one term as township trustee. He belongs to the Presbyterian church, while his wife is a member of the Christian faith. In his farming operations he has met with the success that usually follows the industrious and enterprising man and as a citizen is held in high regard by all who know him.

William Smith. For more than three-quarters of a century William Smith, sr., has been a resident of Middletown, and during over forty years of this time has been identified with the building interests of the city. To his skill and ability are due many of the imposing and substantial structures now occupied for residences or used for business, and evidences are abundant of his having contributed very largely to the generally pleasing architectural aspect of the community. Mr. Smith has made his success in his native locality, for he was born at Middletown, July 4, 1841, his parents being Walter Van Cleve and Lucia (Longstreet) Smith, natives of Trenton, New Jersey, where the former was born July 17, 1806, and the latter April 28, 1804. Her father was Christopher Longstreet, who came from New Jersey at an early day and settled first at Carlisle, subsequently becoming the proprietor of a tavern between Franklin and Springboro. Walter Van Cleve Smith removed to Carlisle, Ohio, in 1825, and three years later was married, and for a short period followed his trade of tailor at that point, but eventually moved to Middletown. Here he conducted a tailor shop until 1852, when he disposed of his interests therein and entered the teaming business, with which he was connected until the time of his

W. K. SMITH AND FAMILY

death, in 1867. William Smith was reared at Middletown, where he received his education in the public schools, and for some time was variously employed, his work including almost any honorable occupation that came to hand. In 1871 he started to learn the business of bricklaying, which he followed as a journeyman for a time, but, discerning greater prosperity in a business of his own, started to do contracting on his own account. His energy and ability soon found recognition on a small scale, but as his work became his advertisement, it was not long before his prospects of success became an assured fact. Mr. Smith now employs more than a dozen men in his work, and has had some of the largest contracts in the city, having built all the tobacco warehouses in the city, numerous churches, schools and places of business, as well as residences, and has also done a large business in places outside of the city. In spite of the fact that he has reached an age at which the majority of men would retire, he is still busily engaged, and with firm step and clear intellect goes about his daily routine of business. Mr. Smith is a man of strong character, has lent solidity and worth to the place of his nativity, and is worthy of the high esteem in which he is held by his business associates. Mr. Smith married Elizabeth Ann Clafton, daughter of John and Sarah Clafton, natives of England, and to this union there were born nine children, as follows: Lucia, born August 26, 1863, now Mrs. Sam L. Clark; John Clafton, born December 20, 1865, who died in 1901; Christopher L., born October 25, 1867, now deceased; William Anderson, born February 20, 1870; Mary Jane, born June 20, 1872, now deceased; Rolland B., born October 23, 1874, now deceased; Joseph B., born December 13, 1876, now deceased; Lathrop George, born December 13, 1878, now deceased; and Bertha B., born October 20, 1881, now Mrs. Beaty Bramble, of Middletown. The father of these children is a Republican and a member of the I. O. O. F. William Anderson Smith, son of William Smith, received his education in the public schools, following which he associated himself in business with his father, with whom he has since continued. He was married in 1895 to Inez Ely, daughter of Joseph Ely, who died in 1909, without children. In 1911 Mr. Smith married Amida Dillman, daughter of Lurton and Flora (Tidball) Dillman, now of Cincinnati but formerly of Connersville, Ind.

William Kaiser Smith, M. D. Since 1913 the list of physicians and surgeons of Middletown has included the name of Dr. William Kaiser Smith, who, since his arrival, has built up a large and remunerative practice and has thoroughly established himself as a thorough, learned and skilled practitioner. The branch of the Smith family to which the Doctor belongs numbers 1500 members in this part of the country, and he is also a descendant of General McClernand, of Revolutionary fame. Doctor Smith was born December 8, 1875, at Mount Washington, Ohio, on a farm, and until fifteen years of age attended the common schools. Subsequently, he spent three years at Mount Washington Normal school, where he took a teacher's course, and began his medical studies at the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical college, from which institution he was graduated

with the class of 1898. The young physician began the practice of his calling at Bainbridge, Ohio, where he remained nine years, and then made removal to Franklin, where he practiced successfully for six years. In 1913, he came to Middletown, and here has since gained steadily in reputation, standing and practice. His well-appointed offices are situated at 118 E. Third street. Doctor Smith belongs to the various organizations of his profession and is recognized by his fellow-practitioners as a man who respects the strictest professional ethics. He is a Republican in politics and he and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist church. November 2, 1906, Doctor Smith was united in marriage with Margaret A., daughter of Isaac and Rachael A. (Eley) Smock, the former a native of Trenton and a sawmill owner by vocation, and the latter born in Indiana. Mrs. Smith is a descendant of Martha Custis, wife of George Washington, and was born at New Carlisle, Ohio, the youngest of her parents' four children, the others being: Phoebe M., Aaron A. and Harry. Doctor and Mrs. Smith have two children: Margaret A., born August 9, 1907; and William K., jr., born January 18, 1912, both attending school. Both the Doctor and his wife are very popular at Middletown, where they have made numerous friends and where their social standing brings them into contact with the best families.

Philip R. Snively, a well-known citizen and successful business man of Middletown, Ohio, is a son of Isaac and Malinda (Ray) Snively, natives of Seven Mile, Ohio. Here the subject of this sketch was born and grew to manhood. He had a brother and three sisters who also reached maturity: Andrew, now in Richmond, Ind.; Mary, Mrs. C. Fessener, in Seven Mile; Hannah, deceased; Ella, Mrs. C. Clark, who is deceased; Harry, in Hamilton, Ohio. The death of his father occurred in August, 1868; that of his mother, October, 1914. September 13, 1888, Mr. Snively was married to Miss Emma Horner, daughter of B. J. and Elizabeth (Kinsey) Horner. Her father was born in Preble County, Ohio; her mother in Virginia. His death occurred May 8, 1898; that of the mother Feb. 14, 1908. Four children were the result of this union: Lee Homer, Elmer Ray, Marks Deam, Mary Frances, who died in May, 1903, aged five and one-half months. All the boys had part in the World war and acquitted themselves with credit and honor. Lee Homer after the cessation of hostilities received an honorable discharge; Elmer Ray joined the Engineering Corps November 23, 1917; Marks D. entered the United States Navy in 1917, at once "went across" and served fourteen months at the front. He was shell-shocked in service which kept him in the hospital for many weeks. On his discharge from the Navy, Marks returned to Middletown and at high noon on Easter Sunday, 1919, was married Hazel Edna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Reece, of East Third street. Since coming to Middletown, in 1904, Mr. Snively has been a stucco cement contractor and has established a very profitable and extensive business. He possesses large property interests and is greatly esteemed as a citizen. His family relations are charming and in Mrs. Snively he has a real helpmate. Mr.

Snively is a Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Christian Henry Sohn. From the year 1875 until his death in 1915, the late Christian Henry Sohn was accounted one of the leading and most progressive business men of Hamilton. During that period he had been one of the founders and main developers of one of the city's largest industries, had been interested in a number of other enterprises that contribuated to the municipality's prestige in the world of business, and had been generous in offering his abilities in behalf of movements calculated to advance the general welfare. Mr. Sohn's career was an interesting and honorable one. He was born at Bessingen, Wurtemberg, Germany, May 15, 1846, a son of Christian Frederick Sohn, a native of the same place. The father came to the United States in 1849 and settled at Cincinnati, where he engaged in brewing, and in the following year sent for his wife and four children, who were brought to this country by a cousin. The latter became the guardian of Christian Henry Sohn, reared him, and kept him in school until he was fourteen years of age. In 1860 the family came to Hamilton and the youth secured employment with John G. Rupp, with whom he remained until he was fifteen years of age, at that time running away from home to enlist in the Union army. When his real age was discovered by the recruiting officers, he was sent back home, where he remained until 1863, then going to Cincinnati, where he worked in a grocery store. He had not given up his determination to enter the army, however, and at the age of eighteen years he enlisted in Company B, 181st regiment, O. V. I. He proved a gallant and dutiful young soldier and fought with his regiment until November 23, 1864, when, at Murfreesboro, he was wounded in the head by a piece of shell. He was confined to the hospital for seventy days, when he rejoined his command and remained in the service until mustered out and honorably discharged, July 14, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C. During the following year, as a result of his wound and army experiences he was in poor health, but when he had fully recovered secured employment in Jacob Rupp's brickyard at Hamilton. In 1869 he left Mr. Rupp to become bookkeeper for Henry Engle, a brewer, with whom he remained until 1875. In that year was founded the firm of Sohn, Rentschler & Bolle, founders of shelf hardware, an association which continued only until July 26, 1876, when Mr. Sohn and George A. Rentschler bought Mr. Bolle's interests and changed the style to Sohn & Rentschler. The business of this concern was the manufacture of shelf hardware of all kinds, grey iron castings and machinery, and under the able and progressive direction of Mr. Sohn it grew to large proportions and became one of Hamilton's principal industries. While his chief interest was centered in the business of which he had been the main founder, and which had developed under his own eye and hand, Mr. Sohn was identified with other important ventures. He was interested in the Hooven-Owens-Rentschler Company, manufacturers of portable and stationary engines, the Phoenix Caster company, the Fairfield Township Ice company and the Cincinnati

Brewing company. His death, which occurred January 17, 1915, removed from Hamilton's business circles a man who was the soul of business honor and whose fine abilities had served to add to the reputation of his adopted city. He was fraternally identified with Hamilton Lodge, No. 409, of the Masonic fraternity, which had charge of the funeral ceremonies. December 20, 1876, Mr. Sohn was married to Miss Ann Sophia Mergantholer, who died. July 16, 1907, Mr. Sohn was again married, being united with Miss Emma R. Roegge, and was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Lilley) Roegge. Her father was born in Prussia and emigrated to the United States when twenty-seven years of age, while her mother, a native of Hanover, Germany, was fifteen years old when she came to America. After their marriage they settled at Cincinnati, where Mr. Roegge conducted a meat market until his death, in 1910, at the age of eighty-seven years, and his widow now makes her home with Mrs. Sohn. They are members of St. John's Lutheran church. There were eleven children in the Roegge family, and six still survive: Alvira, Augustus, Julius, Francis and William, all residents of Cincinnati, and Mrs. Sohn, whose home is at 633 Dayton street, Hamilton.

George P. Sohngen. A business experience covering a number of years is, according to its nature, honorable or otherwise, but in either case it develops capacity and either broadens or lessens the outlook on life. While every type of business man must possess certain qualities to ensure success in his undertakings, those indispensable to the banker rest on a higher plane than in many other lines, and for this reason, if for no other, the banker occupies a position in a community comparable to no other. As a bank represents the most conservative of all institutions, so must the banker exercise conservatism in his activities, yet, although it may seem almost an anomaly, he must also possess a due amount of courageous progressiveness for use upon occasion of need. A man in whose character the foregoing abilities are found is George P. Sohngen, president of the Dime Savings bank, of Hamilton, of which institution he was the founder in 1896. Mr. Sohngen was born June 25, 1860, at Hamilton, a son of Lewis and Eliza Sohngen, natives of Germany, the former of whom emigrated to the United States at the age of twenty-five years and the latter of whom was brought by her parents when two years of age. After graduating from the high school at Hamilton, George P. Sohngen entered the Ohio State university, from which he was duly graduated in 1882. At that time he returned to Hamilton, where, with his brother, he embarked in the malting business as The Sohngen Malting company, continuing therein until 1896 when disposal of the interest of the brothers was made to The American Malting company. On leaving this field of endeavor, Mr. Sohngen gratified an ambition which he had held for some time, that of becoming a banker, and accordingly became the organizer of the Dime Savings bank, of which he has since been the president. Under his capable management and direction of affairs this institution has grown and prospered materially and at this time has an excellent reputation in banking circles, as a safe, conservative

and entirely reliable banking house. Mr. Sohngen is an astute and farseeing financier, staunchly jealous of the reputation of his bank and of the good will of his depositors. He is also vice-president of the Second National bank of Hamilton and president of the Mathes-Sohngen company, in addition to which he has a number of other important business connections. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of a number of local clubs and civic bodies. Mr. Sohngen married Miss Ida M. Conner, and shortly after their union erected his present beautiful home on Ross and D streets, Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Sohngen are the parents of seven children: Harry, associated with the Sohngen Dry Goods company, of which he is a member of the board of directors, is a member of the Elks, married, lives at Hamilton, and has two children: Mark, vice-president and a member of the board of directors of the Sohngen Dry Goods company, of the Middletown store, is married and has two children; Louis C., of Hamilton, vice-president and treasurer of the Lastic Patch Manufacturing company, a director of the Sohngen Dry Goods company, is married and has one child; David, single, who is manager of the Lastic Patch company; George P., jr., who is attending school; Marie, who married Ross Howe of Hamilton, associated with the Second National bank; and Lee Edward, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Sohngen Dry Goods company, who is single and a member of the Elks.

Robert Mason Sohngen. The number of young professional men who served in the recent World war was much greater than the average person would imagine and it is gratifying to know that in most instances these youngsters gave good account of themselves when the occasion required. Not only were thousands of young physicians, attorneys, etc., drafted for the war, but innumerable others who could have avoided service were not inclined to do so, but rather enlisted and distinguished themselves. Among the latter might be mentioned Robert Mason Sohngen, well-known young attorney of Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, who from the inception of the world conflict sponsored the cause of the Allies and when the opportunity presented was accepted in the service and proved himself to be of the type of soldier worthy to wear the colors of Uncle Sam. Although his activities in the war were confined to camp work in this country he demonstrated conclusively that he was of the mould that army officials welcome with outstretched arms and his bearing at all times was such as to instill enthusiasm into his fellow-soldiers. Incidentally, it might be stated that his activities were appreciated to such degree by his superiors as to win him promotions, he having risen to the rank of captain of infantry, at Camp Sherman, before he was mustered out of service. Born in Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, July 16, 1887, he was the son of Charles and Anna (Mason) Sohngen, both of whom were also natives of Hamilton. The father was in close touch with the business interests of the town and was one of the best informed men of the community on the history of Butler county. His loyalty to his home town was never questioned and it is said of him that he was always active in movements that would tend to promote the commercial

prestige of Hamilton. In this regard the son has followed in the footsteps of his father, evincing the greatest interest in developing the commercial supremacy of the City of Hamilton and being looked upon as one of the really energetic and enterprising citizens. After attending the grammar school he was graduated from the high school of Hamilton in 1905. He later attended Cornell University College of Law, receiving his degree in 1908. He went abroad for five months and on his return to Hamilton became associated with the Williams Shoe company, of that place, remaining in this connection until 1912, when he was admitted to the bar. He engaged in the practice of his profession with marked success, but the interest that he had manifested in the World war caused him in August, 1917, to enlist in the Second Officers' Training Corps at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis. In November of that year he was commissioned First Lieutenant in Infantry and was assigned to the 158th Department, Brigade of Camp Sherman. He remained at this post throughout the war, training troops, serving as camp judge advocate and also as camp intelligence officer. In July, 1918, he was promoted to the rank of captain and was honorably discharged from the service December 20, 1918. In 1910 he married Miss Helen Ray Simpson of Middletown, Ohio. He has always proved to be a devoted husband who is inseparably attached to his wife. In politics he is a Democrat. The citizens of Hamilton gave fitting testimonial of their appreciation of his capabilities and honesty when they elected him to the board of education of Hamilton in 1915, and he was re-elected a member of the board of education November 4, 1919, for a term of four years, beginning January 1, 1920. He was later chosen president of this body, which high post he now holds. He belongs to Blue Lodge, Masonic Fraternity, and is also an Elk.

Henry Spangenberger, son of Henry and Mary (Scherer) Spangenberger, is a native son of Butler county, Ohio, and one of its respected and best known citizens. He was born in Millville, February 14, 1860, and his life has been passed in this community in the affairs of which he has always been a chief factor. His parents were natives of Germany. When a young man, Henry Spangenberger, sr., emigrated to this country, and a little later, Mary Scherer came with her parents, H. and Elizabeth (Dater) Scherer, and all settled in the vicinity of Millville, where Henry Spangenberger and Mary Scherer were married, the result of which union was nine children: Henry, subject of this sketch; Peter, who is deceased, married Miss Henninger and they had two sons, Albert and Robert, the latter of whom saw service in the World war; John, deceased; Elizabeth, who married L. H. Beiser, lives in Stockton and has one child, Arthur; Charles, married Louisa Angst and had four children, Henry deceased, Dorothy, Viola and Margaret; Jacob, married Mary Heimuch and had five children, Clarence, Albert, Robert, who served in the U. S. Navy during the World war, Jacob and Margaret; Mary, married to Jacob Fry, living in Milville, had four children, Oscar, Blanch, Edna, Ruth; Ella, married to Joseph Lenhoff, who is deceased, whose children are Elston, Cora and Ada. Henry, our subject, is unmarried, and lives with his mother at Millville. He is a

leading citizen and so universally respected that he is often called to lead in efforts and projects for the good of the community. During the World war, he took special interest in the home activities, the Red Cross, etc., and gave freely of his means and personal effort to their advancement. Mr. Spangenberger is the present trustee of Ross township and is exceedingly popular because of his universal geniality and courtesy.

William Henry Specht, son of August and Susan (Fox) Specht, was born near Martin's Ferry, Ohio, February 25, 1870. His father when but a lad was brought by his parents from Germany to Martin's Ferry, where he grew to manhood and became the head of a family of fourteen children: Lewis and Harry, died in infancy; August, accidentally shot and killed by a playmate at the age of seven years; Mary, Alice and Ella, deceased; Lizzie, Mrs. Edward Iron, in Holloway, Ohio; Henry, in Pennsylvania; Flood, in West Virginia; John, in Middletown; Frank, in Martin's Ferry, was in service during the World war; Lillie, Mrs. G. La Rue, in Indiana; Mrs. George King, in Martin's Ferry; William Henry, subject of this sketch. The father is a veteran of the Civil war, having served three years and three months as a drummer boy. He still lives in Martin's Ferry; the mother died September 12, 1906. Mr. Specht was married to Margaret J. Evans, daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Watkins) Evans. When she was six years of age, Mrs. Specht's parents came from Wales and located at Martin's Ferry, where the father died December 25, 1916, the mother still lives. Mrs. Specht's brothers and sisters were as follows: George, died in Wales; David, in Granite City, Mo.; Hannah, Mrs. Robert Edwards; George, Griffith, Thomas, William, Mary, Mrs. George Beck; Alice, Mrs. David Ashton, all of Martin's Ferry. Mr. and Mrs. Specht are the parents of six children: Margaret, Mrs. Parker Matthews, born December 16, 1896; William, born December 13, 1900; Alice, born June 9, 1903; Howard, born June 24, 1904; Helen, born November 4, 1906; Elizabeth, born October 11, 1909. The children possess special talent in music and it is the purpose of the parents to develop this gift as well as provide each with a high school education. Mr. Specht moved his family from Martin's Ferry to Middletown September 11, 1911, and accepted a position with the American Rolling Mill company in the capacity of heater, and is still engaged in that occupation. He is domestic in habits and is nowhere more pleased than when in his own home surrounded by the members of his charming family. Mr. Specht is a member of the Christian church and belongs to the orders of Moose and Eagles. Politically, he has liberal views.

Chris Springer. In according consideration in this history to the essentially substantial and representative exponents of farm industry in Butler county, a place of no indefinite priority is to be given to Mr. Springer, who is a scion of one of the sterling old families of the county and whose stage of productive activities as a farmer is the fine old homestead farm, in Fairfield township, which figures as the place of his nativity. Here he was born on the 17th of July, 1862, and his status in the community demonstrates not only

his worth of character but also his excellent judgment in not being deflected from the line of industrial enterprise to which he was here reared and in connection with which he has developed to the maximum degree the splendid agricultural resources of his native county. Mr. Springer is a son of Peter and Magdalena (Engle) Springer, both of whom were born in Germany, and both of whom were young at the time of the emigration of the respective families to America. Peter Springer was a son of Joseph Springer, who became a pioneer settler in Butler county and who here owned and operated one of the early gristmills established a few miles south of Hamilton, with water-power facilities. After his marriage Peter Springer settled in section 33, Fairfield township, where he purchased seventy-eight and one-half acres of land, a considerable portion of which was still covered with the native timber. He built a good barn and made other improvements on the place, which had already been supplied with a dwelling, and with the passing years he reclaimed much of his timbered land and developed a productive and valuable farm. Here he continued his successful activities as a general farmer until his death, at the age of seventy-three years, his wife having passed away at the age of sixty-eight years and both having been earnest and consistent members of the Mennonite church, in the affairs of which they were active workers, the while Mr. Springer's political views were exemplified in his support of the principles of the Democratic party. Of the five children the eldest was Joseph, who died in childhood; Anna is the wife of John J. Huffman, of Fairfield township; Chris is the immediate subject of this review; Miss Barbara resides at Pleasant Run, Ohio; Mary is the wife of George Rahmes, of that place. Early in his youth Chris Springer began to contribute his quota to the work of the old home farm, on which he has resided continuously from the time of his birth, and he takes lasting satisfaction in the fact that it was his privilege to remain with and care for his parents in the gracious evening of their earnest and unassuming lives. The old home farm is endeared to him by graceful memories and associations and he takes pride in keeping the place up to the best modern standard in productiveness. He has remodeled the substantial house on the farm and has made other valuable improvements that give evidence of his progressiveness and enterprise. In connection with diversified agriculture Mr. Springer gives considerable attention to the dairy business, which he has made a profitable department of his farm enterprise. He and his family are well known throughout Butler county, and it is but just to say that here their circle of friends is coincident with that of their acquaintances. In politics Mr. Springer holds allegiance to the Democratic party, and while he has had no desire for public office of any kind his civic loyalty prompted him to give effective service during his incumbency of the position of school director of his district. The daughters are active and valued members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Hamilton. The year 1894 recorded the marriage of Mr. Springer to Miss Ella Knapp, of Hamilton, Butler county, she being a daughter of Louis and Caroline Knapp, who were natives of Germany. Upon coming to Butler county Mr. Knapp for a

time followed his trade, that of cigarmaker, at Cincinnati, but eventually he turned his attention to farming, of which industry he here continued a representative until the time of his death, his wife being still on the old homestead. Of their children Bena resides near Pleasant Run, Ohio, Mrs. Springer being the next younger; Sarah and Charles; Carrie at Hamilton remains with widowed mother, now venerable in years; Mary is the wife of Jacob Trautman, of Hamilton; and Julia is the wife of Harry Buell, of Lindenwald, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Springer have two daughters: Mary completed a course in the Hamilton High school and business college and now holds a responsible position in the office of the Central Motor company at Hamilton, and Carlena, who received similar educational advantages, is at the parental home.

Bernard Anthony Staarman, a prominent Morgan township farmer, a son of George and Mathilda (Mayburry) Staarman, was born August 15, 1885. His father was born near Cincinnati, and with his parents, moved to West Virginia, some years ago, taking up residence near Leopold. Here he married Mathilda Mayburry, who was born in that state. In later years they came to Butler county, where, in Ross township, they settled on a farm. To them were born these children; Bernard; John, married Marie Headrick; Mary, deceased; George, Frank; Frances, who became the wife of Aloysius Day; Anna, Lula, Edward, Joseph, deceased; and Hermann. Mr. and Mrs. George Staarman are living in Ross township. George Staarman served at the Cape May, N. J., hospital during the recent war. Frank served in Base Hospital 115, as a corporal. Mr. Bernard Staarman was educated at Leopold, V. Va. In 1910, he married Josephine Kreyenbuhl, daughter of Vincent and Mary (Rieg) Kreyenbuhl, of Leopold, W. Va. Her parents had seven children: Cecelia, Josephine, Elizabeth, Lucy, Agnes, Isadore, who served in the recent war, and Henry. After their marriage, Bernard Staarman and his wife moved to Linwood, a suburb of Cincinnati. While there, Mr. Staarman was identified with the R. K. LeBlond Machine Tool company. Later he purchased 129 acres of fine land in Butler county, the farm being known as the old Keeser farm, in Morgan township. Here he has made a number of excellent improvements, and his farm today is as fine as any in the locality. To him and his wife have been born the following children: Albert, born September 14, 1911; Loretta, September 10, 1913; Bertha, November 19, 1915; Leo, April 17, 1918. The family are members of the St. Aloysius Catholic church of Shandon. Mr. and Mrs. Staarman, during the war, gave much of their time to patriotic service.

Nicholas Stahl, whose expert knowledge of his business has made him exceedingly valuable as a roller in the great manufacturing plant of the American Rolling Mill company for a number of years, is a highly respected and substantial citizen of Middletown, where he has large realty interests. He was born at Newport, Ky., youngest of four sons born to Jacob Henry and Louisa (Schunk) Stahl. His brothers are: Jacob Henry, John and Charles Stahl. His father was sixteen years old when he left Pennsylvania and located near Wheeling, W. Va., where he worked in rolling

mills for some years, then moved to Newport, Ky., and worked in rolling mills there. Thus Nicholas very early became accustomed to mills and machinery and after his school days were over, began his apprenticeship in rolling mills, and advanced step by step until he became an expert roller himself. Since coming to Middletown Mr. Stahl has invested in property which he has improved, an example being his handsome modern residence on Baltimore street. He married Miss Myrtle, daughter of Franklin and Mary Jane (Withrow) Haley, of Jackson county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Haley are the parents of Myrtle, now Mrs. Stahl; Mrs. Alma Kimble; Mrs. Wilda Sample and John Sheridan, who is quite prominent in Masonic circles in Covington, Ky. Mrs. Cora Jones a daughter, deceased, left a son, William Harold Haley, five years of age, who is being cared for and educated by his grandparents. Mrs. Stahl is an educated and accomplished lady, with handsome presence and winsome manner. She is a member of the order of Eastern Star, and White Shrine, of Jerusalem, in which orders she has held high offices, and is also active in the different clubs of the city. Mr. Stahl is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight Templar and a Shriner. He belongs also to the Elks and to various industrial bodies, being quite prominent in labor circles. He was elected the first president of the Amalgamated association in the Miami valley. Personally he is pleasant, genial and reliable and it is not difficult to understand the fact of his having a wide circle of warm friends. In his political views the Republican party best illustrates his ideas. Both he and Mrs. Stahl are members of the First Presbyterian church at Middletown.

Adam J. Stahlheber. The growth and development of Butler county during the past thirty or forty years have been remarkable, and the visitor to this fertile country, as it is today, would find it hard to believe that but comparatively a sort time ago this was but an expanse of timber, prairie and swamp. Such was the case, however, and one of the families which has assisted in bringing about the advancement noted is that of Stahlheber, a worthy representative of which is found in Adam J. Stahlheber, of St. Clair township, a prosperous and highly respected agriculturist. Mr. Stahlheber was born September 2, 1879, in St. Clair township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Phillip and Margaretta (Hammel) Stahlheber, whose careers are mentioned in the sketches of Henry P. and David Stahlheber, elsewhere in this volume. His education was secured in the public schools in the vicinity of his country home, and when he had completed his studies he gave his entire attention to farming, which he has followed with increasing success to the present time. Mr. Stahlheber also engages extensively in threshing, and has a complete outfit, including thresher, huller, corn husker, etc., one of the best outfits to be found in the Miami valley. With this he operates during the season over an extensive territory. He is a man who possesses excellent business qualities and high ideals of business honor and integrity, and as a farmer gives evidence of his ability and good management in his well-cultivated fields, splendid improvements and soundly constructed and perfectly re-

paired buildings. Mr. Stahlheber was married February 17, 1904, to Mary E., daughter of Jacob B. and Mary A. (Druck) Beiser. Mr. Beiser was sixteen years of age when he emigrated from Germany to the United States and located in Butler county, where he met and later married Miss Druck, who had come from the same country when she was nine years old. They had the following children, one, Edward, having died in infancy. The survivors are: Jacob J.; Charles D.; V. V., a resident of California; William; Minnie, the wife of William Sumser; Lucy C., the wife of William Bruer; and Edna, the wife of Claude W. King, all of Butler county except V. V. To Mr. and Mrs. Stahlheber there have been born three children: Bertha Selma, born November 6, 1905; Mary Irma, born March 3, 1908; and Howard Phillip, born October 10, 1912, bright, attractive and clever children, who are attending the home schools. The family belongs to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church. Mr. Stahlheber, who is a staunch Democrat in politics, has served for many years as a clerk of election in his township, and has been superintendent of highways for six years. He is considered one of the enterprising and up-to-date agriculturists of his section and an excellent judge of stock and farming conditions, and as a citizen can always be found supporting movements making for the betterment of his community and its people.

David M. Stahlheber. The career of David M. Stahlheber has been an expression of well-applied energy resulting in successful accomplishments. A resident of Butler county throughout his life, it may be truthfully said of him that he has worked out his own success, and the excellent improvements to be found on his property in St. Clair township form an indication of his diligence, enterprise and progressive spirit. Mr. Stahlheber was born on a farm in St. Clair township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Philip and Margaret (Hammel) Stahlheber. His parents, natives of Germany, emigrated to the United States separately as young people and met and were married in Ohio. For a time they made their abiding place the little community of Coke Otto, later went to the old McClellan farm, and finally settled on the property on Eaton road which is now occupied by their son Jacob W. There this highly esteemed and respected couple passed the remaining years of their lives. They were faithful members of St. John's Evangelical church and were laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery, where an appropriate stone marks their last resting-place, although their memories are also kept green in the hearts of their many friends. They were the parents of the following children: Adam; David M., of this review; Jacob W., who is farming the old home place in St. Clair township; Henry P. H., also a successful farmer of St. Clair township; Kate, who is the wife of Fred Schul, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on the Mason road; and Bertha, who is the wife of Otto Willick and resides in Oklahoma. David M. Stahlheber was born in October, 1893, and attended district No. 4 school in St. Clair township. His education was cut short when he was fourteen years of age, however, by the death of his parents, and at that time he went to work for a brother, his education thus coming through the school of hard work and ex-

perience. February 10, 1916, he was united in marriage with Jessie, daughter of William Lambert, and following his union went to his uncle Charles Stahlheber's place, where he secured employment under his brother, Henry P. H. Eventually he was able to gather together sufficient capital to purchase the old George Marsh farm, a tract of 125 acres in St. Clair township, which he has developed into an excellent property. While he belongs to the younger generation of agriculturists of Butler county, Mr. Stahlheber is accounted among the skilled men of his calling, not alone as a general farmer, but as a raiser of live stock and is the owner of fourteen head of fine Holstein cattle. In politics he supports the principles and candidates of the Democratic party. During the war period he was a generous contributor to the various activities. Mr. and Mrs. Stahlheber are the parents of one child: Bertha May.

Henry Stahlheber, who is favorably known in agricultural connections as the owner and operator of a valuable farm of 160 acres in Hanover township, Butler county, has passed his entire life in this community. Here this veteran agriculturist has commanded the respect and good will of his associates, and his legacy of integrity, combined with useful labor and sound citizenship, has been a valuable contribution to the upbuilding of the community. Mr. Stahlheber was born at Trenton, Ohio, October 4, 1852, a son of Henry and Lizzie (Kippenberger) Stahlheber. His parents, natives of Germany, grew up and were married there, and shortly thereafter emigrated to the United States and settled at Trenton. They lived at different places until 1867 when they secured 160 acres of land in Hanover township, the same farm as that upon which their son now resides, and this continued to be their home during a long period of years, although in the evening of life they moved to the present home of their son, Jacob Stahlheber, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work. When they located on the original farm they found there an old log house and other ramshackle buildings, but these did not conform to Mr. Stahlheber's idea of what a home should be, and in 1872 he burned the brick and got timber wherewith to build the present substantial brick house. This was followed in 1876 by the erection of a large barn, and in later years he made numerous other improvements. He was a man highly respected and well known in his community and was a Democrat in politics, and he and Mrs. Stahlheber were faithful members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. They had eight children, namely: Philip, who is deceased; Michael, a retired farmer, who married Ida Moyer; Henry, of this notice; Mary; John, deceased, who married Christina Engel; Lizzie, deceased, who was the wife of George Ittel, of Hamilton; Charles, a farmer on Seven Mile pike; and Jacob, a farmer and dairyman of St. Clair township. Henry Stahlheber is indebted to the Valley View common school for his educational training. He was brought up as the son of a farmer, his early training being along that line, and remained at home with his parents, with whom he continued to work until fourteen years after his marriage, when he became, through purchase, the owner of the old home place. He has made numerous improvements which have added to

HENRY STAHLHEBER

MRS. HENRY STAHLHEBER

HENRY STAHLHEBER, SR.

the value of the property, and in addition to carrying on general farming has found success in raising Holstein cattle, a large type of Poland China hogs, and an excellent quality of draft horses. Mr. Stahlheber is a Democrat in politics, but has never aspired to office. He has willingly and generously supported all movements which have promised to benefit his community and its people, and he and Mrs. Stahlheber are faithful members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church at Hamilton. Mr. Stahlheber married Miss Anna Margaretta Engel, and they became the parents of two children: Annie, who married Jesse James, of Hamilton, and has two children, Orin H. L. and Ethelynn; and Mary, who married John Alstedder of Hamilton, and has two children, Henry S. and Ruth Mary. Mrs. Stahlheber's father, John T. Engel, and mother, Anna Elizabeth Heinlein before her marriage, who were natives of Germany, came to the United States and were married in Cincinnati and were farming people of Ross township, Butler county. To them were born nine children: Anna Margaretta, now Mrs. Henry Stahlheber; Christina, widow of John Stahlheber; Mary, Elizabeth and William (twins), and Ann Barbara, are deceased; Charles, married Minnie Schmid and lives in Butler county; George E., who lives on the old home place; and J. T., deceased. All belonged to the Evangelical Lutheran church.

Henry P. H. Stahlheber. St. Clair township has no more industrious or skilled agriculturist than Henry P. H. Stahlheber, who has been a resident of this community all of his life, and who is now carrying on operations on the old McKee farm. He was born on his father's farm in St. Clair township, Butler county, August 5, 1876, a son of Philip and Margaret (Hammel) Stahlheber, natives of Germany. The parents were young people when they came to the United States and met and were married in Ohio, following which for a time they resided at the little hamlet of Coke Otto, whence they moved to the old McClellan farm. Later they went to the property on Eaton road where their son Jacob W. now resides and that continued to be the home of this worthy couple throughout the remainder of their lives. They were highly respected people of their community, where they had numerous friends, and many mourners followed their cortege when they were laid to rest in Greenwood cemetery. They were the parents of the following children: Adam; David M., who is successfully engaged in farming in St. Clair township, Butler county; Jacob W., who is farming the old homestead in St. Clair township; Henry P. H., of this notice; Kate, who is the wife of Fred Schul, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on the Mason road; and Bertha, who is the wife of Otto Willick and resides in Oklahoma. The parents of these children were faithful members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran church. Henry P. H. Stahlheber was educated in the public schools of St. Clair township, following which, like other farmers' sons, he started to help his father and brothers in the work to be done at home. He was married in 1901 to Louise, daughter Martin Druck, of Hanover township, a farmer now deceased. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stahlheber settled on the place on which they now live, known as the old McKee farm,

which had been purchased by the father of Mr. Stahlheber. At the time of Philip Stahlheber's death the original farm of 214 acres became a part of the estate, from which through inheritance and purchase Henry P. H. Stahlheber secured his present property of 163 acres. This he has developed into one of the valuable and attractive farms of the county, with good buildings, modern equipment and up-to-date conveniences and improvements. He is a skilled farmer, and in the matter of citizenship no man in his locality stands higher, while as a business man of integrity his name is universally honored in business circles. He is a staunch Democrat in his political affiliation, and he and the members of his family belong to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church. The children are: Harold, Margaret, Anna and Carolyn, and all have been given excellent educational advantages. Mrs. Stahlheber's father, Martin Druck, was born in Germany in September, 1843, and came to the United States with his parents and to Butler county in 1853. In 1867 he married Theresa Horter and were the parents of three children: Anna M. T., wife of Henry Petri and residents of Butler county; Elizabeth N., who married John Greichen, also of Butler county, both of whom are now deceased; and Louise C., wife of Henry P. H. Stahlheber. All were members of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church.

Jacob Stahlheber. Among the well and favorably known farmers and dairymen of Hanover township, Butler county, one who has been particularly successful in his work and has gained a position of recognized standing in his community, is Jacob Stahlheber. Mr. Stahlheber has been a resident of this community all of his life, having been born on his father's farm in Hanover township, April 12, 1867, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Kippenberger) Stahlheber. His parents, natives of Germany, grew up and were married in their native land whence they came to the United States in 1850 and located at Trenton, Ohio, for one year, then settling on the John Wilson farm in St. Clair township, Butler county. Later the father bought a partly cleared property in Hanover township, consisting of 162 acres in section 12, the clearing of which he completed, in addition to erecting a good set of buildings which still stand in an excellent state of preservation. In 1873, Mr. Stahlheber bought 163 acres additional in the same township, known as the old Delleplane place, where he remodeled the house and made many valuable improvements, and that continued to be the home of the parents during the remainder of their lives, the father dying there at the age of eighty years, while the mother was sixty-three years old at the time of her demise. They were faithful members of the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church of Hamilton, and the parents of eight children: Philip, deceased, who was a farmer in St. Clair township; Michael, a farmer, who was a dairyman in Hanover township for twenty years; Henry, a farmer in the same township; John, also a farmer there, who died in 1910; Elizabeth, who died as the wife of George Ittel; Phillipena, of Hamilton, the widow of William Wiegler; Charles, who is engaged in farming in St. Clair township; and Jacob. Jacob Stahlheber was educated in the country schools and as a young man engaged in the milk business with his father,

JACOB STAHLHEBER AND FAMILY

with whom he was associated from 1868 until 1892. He was married in 1891 to Mary E. Schmitt, born in Warsaw, Illinois, a daughter of Charles and Margaret Schmitt, natives of Germany. Charles Schmitt was but four years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, and grew up in Kentucky and Illinois, in which latter state he resided after his marriage for a number of years. Eventually he came to Butler county, Ohio, settling on Seven Mile pike, but later retired and moved to Hamilton, where he died at the age of eighty-two years, Mrs. Schmitt having passed away when sixty-three years old. They were faithful members of the Evangelical Lutheran church and the parents of ten children: William A., connected with the West Side Motor company, of Hamilton; Kate, the wife of J. C. Engel, of Hamilton; John E., president of the West Side Motor company of Hamilton; Mary E.; Charles, secretary and treasurer of the West Side Motor company; Elizabeth, the wife of Walter Gross, of Hillsboro, Ohio; George, engaged in the motorcycle business at St. Louis; Fred, who conducts the Miami Valley Motor company, at Dayton; Ida, who married Andrew Casteel; and Julius, a salesman with the West Side Motor company of Hamilton. To Mr. and Mrs. Stahlheber there have been born seven children: Clarence is deceased; and Herbert J., who died at ninteen years of age. He was a trusted employee of the West Side Motor company at the time of his death, and was greatly missed by his many friends who still remember him; Loretta K., the wife of Carl Schultze, of Cincinnati; Edwin C.; Marcella M.; Robert R. and Russell L. Mr. Stahlheber has been a farmer and dairyman all of his life. His courtesy and reliability, together with his excellent milk products, have won for him an enviable patronage among the people of Hamilton, and his neighborliness and public spirit make him a popular acquisition to his township. He likewise raises Duroc Jersey hogs and draft horses and is accounted a good judge of live stock. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never aspired to office. Since early manhood he has been a member of the Emanuel Lutheran church at Hamilton, to which the members of his family also belong, and contributes generously towards the maintenance of the local organization.

Jacob W. Stahlheber, whose home is in the Hamilton community of St. Clair township, is one of the representative agriculturists of Butler county. Thorough, systematic and progressive, he has met with deserved success in his chosen calling and by his own unaided efforts has risen to a position among the substantial citizens of his community, being now the owner of a well-improved and valuable farm of 186 acres. Mr. Stahlheber was born July 16, 1895, on a farm just east of Hamilton, in Butler county, Ohio, a son of Philip and Margaret (Hammel) Stahlheber. The parents of Mr. Stahlheber were born in Germany and were young people when they came to America, each settling with their family in Ohio, where they met and were married. For a time they resided at Coke Otto and then took up their residence on the old McClellan farm in Butler county, but finally settled down permanently on the homestead which is now occupied by their son Jacob W., located on the Eaton

road. There they resided during the rest of their lives, as honest and highly respected and God-fearing people, who lived their faith and worshiped at Zion Evangelical Lutheran church. When they died they were laid to rest in the Greenwood cemetery, and the memory of their good deeds and kindly natures still remains green in the hearts of their children and many friends. They were the parents of the following children: Adam; David M., who is carrying on farming and stock raising in St. Clair township, Butler county; Jacob W., of this notice; Henry P. H., who is a successful agriculturist of St. Clair township; Kate, who is the wife of Fred Schul, a prosperous farmer on the Mason road in Butler county; and Bertha, a resident of the state of Oklahoma, and wife of Otto Willick. Jacob W. Stahlheber attended the Blue Grass school and for several years worked as an associate and assistant of his father, after whose death he commenced working for his mother. When she, too, passed away he began farming on his own account on the place which he now owns, and which he purchased from the family estate. He is now the owner of 186 acres of the old homestead, which he devotes to general farming, in addition to which he is at present engaged in extensive stock raising operations, having at this time a splendid herd of Holstein cattle. His property is well improved, and is fitted throughout with Delco lights. In his political affiliations Mr. Stahlheber is a Democrat and takes an active interest in public affairs. During the war he was a contributor to all war activities and took a prominent part in several movements. With his family, he belongs to the Zion Evangelical Lutheran church. His life has been one of industry and usefulness and due success has not been denied, it being but the just reward of honest labor for all that he has acquired through his own efforts. December 18, 1915, Mr. Stahlheber was married to Alvina, daughter of Stephen and Mary Slipher, of St. Clair township, and they are the parents of one daughter, Virginia, who was born in 1907.

George Steinbrecher, Jr., son of George and Lou (Bolmer) Steinbrecher, was born in Middletown, Ohio, December 17, 1893. He was one of family of five children; the others: Lucien, in Middletown; Edgar, with the Army of Occupation in China; Reuben, deceased; Anna, Mrs. Charles Jewell; Tillie, Mrs. Louis Abdon. His father died January 4, 1905; his mother, June 4, 1914. Our subject attended the public schools at Middletown, Ohio, and during the earlier years engaged in various pursuits. On April 19, 1918, he enlisted with the U. S. Marines, was transferred to the Fifth Replacement August 18, 1918, and sailed for Brest, France, August 27. At Verdun, he was wonded in the right fore arm, which confined him to the hospital for six weeks. His service in France extended over a period of almost one year. He received his discharge June 16, 1919, and soon after his arrival home engaged as fireman on the New York Central railroad. Mr. Steinbrecher is a member of the Methodist church and of the Moose lodge. He is a Republican.

Charles W. Stephan, son of Charles and Helena (Wunsch) Stephan, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 29, 1864, and is one of the most substantial and prosperous farmers in Ross township,

which has been his home for many years and where he is held in high esteem by all his acquaintances and friends. The parents of Charles W. were natives of Baden-Baden, Germany, and while yet in that country, the father learned the trade of baker. Coming to this country, he for many years operated a bakery in Cincinnati. In 1865, with his family, he moved to Venice, Ross township, where he opened and conducted a tavern for a considerable period of time, or until his death in 1867; the death of the mother occurred in 1912. Their children numbered seven: Helen and Louise, Mrs. A. Holland, both deceased; Caroline, Mrs. Orin Brown; Wilhelmina, Mrs. H. W. Butterfield; Amelia, Mrs. Jesse Butterfield; Adolph, deceased; and Charles W., the subject of this sketch. As a lad, Charles W. attended the public schools of Ross township, and on completion of their curriculum, he entered his career as farmer, in which vocation he was to become so successful and prove so prosperous. In 1889, he married Mary E. Brown, daughter of Benjamin and Nancy (Wickard) Brown, of Venice, who were the parents of four children: Wilmer S., who served as treasurer of Butler county several terms; Mary, Mrs. Stephan; and two who died in infancy. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stephan moved to the farm they still own and occupy. In addition to this, Mr. Stephan acquired two hundred acres additional which he has disposed of at much profit, and is also the owner of twenty-one valuable residence properties in Hamilton; which is now his home, having disposed of his interest in Venice. Mr. and Mrs. Stephan have one daughter, Beausie, Mrs. Carl D. Baker, of Dayton, Ohio, now deceased. Mrs. Baker was a charming woman who graduated from the College of Music and also attended Western college at Oxford, Ohio. Mr. Stephan takes great interest in all public maters and is ever ready in any work for the public good. He has served the people as trustee of Ross township and made a most capable official, he was also a member of the Butler County Agriculutral society for many years. In the various activities conducted during the recent war, he had prominent part, and his benefactions are neither few nor insignificant.

George M. Stephens. For more than forty years George M. Stephens has been identified with the trade of carpentry and the business of contracting and building, and for thirty-five years of this time his operations have been centered at College Corner, where he is now a member of the contracting firm of Stephens & Stewart. Here he has built up a lasting and substantial reputation as a skilled workman, an honorable business man and a public-spirited citizen. Mr. Stephens was born at Somerville, Butler county, Ohio, August 21, 1861, a son of William F. and Anna (Hamilton) Stephens, the former born in Butler county, where the family had been old settlers and the grandfather a lifelong farmer, while the mother was a native of Pennsylvania. William F. Stephens was the proprietor of a modest shoe store at the time of his marriage, not long after which the Civil war came on and he enlisted in an Ohio Infantry Regiment and fought gallantly with the Union army until the close of hostilities. He then returned to his shoe business, which he conducted until 1884, and at which time he went to Kansas, locating at Greensburg,

Kiowa county, Kans., where he established a shoe store and continued as its proprietor until his death. Mrs. Stephens, who survived her husband some years, had come to Butler county as a child with her parents, settling near Somerville, where her father was first a butcher and later a farmer. She and her husband were the parents of five children: Ira V., a resident of College Corner; George M., of this notice; Orla, who is deceased; Charles G., a resident of Seattle, Wash.; and Carrie Belle, who is the wife of Francis Powell, of Hamilton, Ohio. George M. Stephens received a public school education at Somerville, and when he completed his studies took up the carpenter's trade, which he learned thoroughly. He began to work thereat in 1878, when he was but seventeen years of age, and soon found his services in good demand. In 1884, he accompanied his parents and the other children of the family to Kansas, but remained only four years in that state, in 1888 returning to College Corner, which has since been his home and the scene of his success. Not long after his return he formed a partnership with William R. Stewart, another master carpenter, and the new firm of Stephens & Stewart embarked upon its career as contractors. In addition to many buildings, including both banks at College Corner, the firm has erected the schoolhouse at Morning Sun and a number of buildings at Hamilton, and is widely known for its good workmanship and its prompt and honorable completion of contracts. Mr. Stephens is an Elk and a Mason and is popular in both lodges. He takes a keen and helpful interest in civic affairs, as a public-spirited citizen, and he and Mrs. Stephens belong to the Methodist church. In 1889, Mr. Stephens married Ida, daughter of Edward Hinsey, of Somerville, Ohio, and to this union there was born one son: Bruce H., educated at Oxford, and Miami university, and now holding an important position in a bank at Liberty, Ind.

David W. Stephenson was born at Sparta, Ill., March 22, 1849, a son of William J. and Martha (Ferris) Stephenson, the former a native of Boone county, Ky., and the latter of South Carolina. William J. Stephenson went as a young man to Sparta, Ill., but in 1883 came to Oxford, Ohio, where he retired after having established a good record in business circles and as a citizen, and died in 1892, at the age of eighty-one years, while his wife passed away at Xenia, Ohio, when sixty years of age. Their children were: Robert, of Springfield, Ohio; Mary Jane, who resides at New Wilmington, Pa.; David William; and Loretta, who died in 1883. David William Stephenson was educated in the public schools, and as a young man learned the tinsmith trade at Xenia, Ohio, and subsequently went to Yellow Springs, Ohio, where he followed his trade until 1883. Coming to Oxford in that year, he became one of the proprietors of a tinsmith shop and stove store, under the firm style of Stephenson & Schultz. Later they expanded their business to include hardware, but after several years Mr. Stephenson retired from the firm and engaged in business alone on High street, then moving to his present establishment on Park place. Mr. Stephenson is one of the best informed and most progressive residents of his city, a man of genial and approachable manner, and keenly interested in the affairs which

engage the attention and affect the welfare of the community. His standing in business circles is an excellent one and as a citizen he has always been found supporting good movements. Mr. Stephenson married Margaret McQuiston, of Morning Sun, Ohio, daughter of Hugh McQuiston, a farmer of that place, now deceased. To this union there were born three children: Edwin Wilson, Hugh W. and Ruth. Edwin W. Stephenson was born at Yellow Springs, Ohio, January 19, 1883, and received his early education in the public schools in Oxford, following which he spent one year at Miami university. For five years he operated a steam laundry at Oxford, and in 1912 installed an ice plant here, and founded the Stephenson company, ice, coal, feed, posts and cement, of which he has since been secretary and treasurer. He is a capable and well informed, energetic and progressive business man, whose standing is high in commercial circles as well as in civic life. With his family, he belongs to the United Presbyterian church. He was married June 24, 1908, to Margaret Herron, of Milford township, and they are the parents of two daughters, Sarah Margaret and Mary Louise. Hugh W. Stephenson, president of the Stephenson company, was born at Oxford, June 8, 1886, and attended the public schools and Miami university, following which he conducted a book store for three years. He then entered the present business, the policies of which he has continued to direct to the present with marked skill and acumen. He married Flora Myers of Oxford, and has two sons, William David and Robert, and belongs to the United Presbyterian church. Ruth, the youngest child and only daughter of David W. Stephenson, is a graduate of Oxford High school and Miami university, and also took a course of instruction in the Conservatory of Music at Cincinnati, in order to develop her marked talents. The members of this family are splendid, progressive people of their community, where they are held in the highest esteem and have numerous friends.

John Stephenson, who is a highly respected citizen and prosperous farmer and dairyman of Union township, belongs to an old and respected family of Butler county which was founded here by his grandfather, John Stephenson, in pioneer days. Mr. Stephenson bears his grandfather's name and proves worthy of it. He was born in Union township, Butler county, Ohio, July 14, 1879, son of George and Rebecca Jane Stephenson, both of whom were born in Union township. The family has always been an agricultural one and very successful because of close attention to business and excellence of farm methods. John Stephenson obtained his education in the schools of Union township and assisted his father on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he paid a visit to western states that covered several years. During this time he found nothing that pleased him better than Ohio, as his father needed him he returned to the old farm and has operated it very profitably ever since. This well cultivated farm contains 144 acres, is well stocked and Mr. Stephenson makes use of the best obtainable modern machinery in growing grain, all of which he feeds, as he specializes in cattle and dairying. In 1911, he married Norma Heisel, and they

have three children: Joseph, Edna and James. The father of Mr. Stephenson survives and still lives on his farm. To some extent, Mr. Stephenson has been active in local politics. In 1909, on the Democratic ticket, he was elected township trustee and served four years. In 1915, he was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of P. Lintners, since which time he has been twice elected to the office.

Wayne Stephenson, was born in Carroll county, Indiana, in 1881, the son of John and Nancy J. (Alexander) Stephenson, both of whom were natives of Butler county. After marriage, John Stephenson, and wife lived in Reily township, Butler county. They later moved to Indiana, where they purchased a farm and resided for thirty-five years. Returning to Reily township, they bought the old Alexander homestead of 170 acres, where Wayne Stephenson now lives. The parents made their home here for a number of years and later moved to Hamilton, where the father died. The mother now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Earl Dennison, of McGonigle station. Seven children were born to John and Nancy (Alexander) Stephenson as follows: William, Samuel, Wayne and Nellie, Mrs. Earl Dennison, who survive, and George, Darby and John now dead. John Stephenson and his brother William were soldiers in the Civil war. Wayne Stephenson, the subject of this sketch, received his educational training in the common schools, and took up the business of farming for his father. In November, 1907, he was united in marriage to Hazel, daughter of E. O. Roll, formerly of Hanover township, but now a resident of Hamilton. Mr. Roll was prominent for many years in farming interests, a highly esteemed citizen of the community with which he has been so long identified. Wayne Stephenson, following his marriage, resided on the present farm, and on the death of his father, he purchased one-half from the heirs, the other half of the place having been previously acquired. The farm now contains 171 acres. The buildings were erected by his father. To Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Stephenson were born three sons as follows: John R., aged ten years; Robert, aged seven; and James Stephenson, aged three. The parents are active members of the Methodist church, and prominent in the social affairs of the community. During the great conflict in which America engaged for the perpetuation of free institutions among men, the family took an active part in all war drives, and loyally supported the government as one hundred per cent Americans.

George W. Stevens. Ohio is proud of the fact that it contributed its full quota of men in the great Civil war and it is particularly gratifying that a large percentage of its fighting men left their farms to take up arms for the cause of the Union. Among this state's worthy agriculturists who saw service throughout the Civil war was George W. Stephens, who passed away at his home in Riley township, Butler county, May 19, 1918. It may be truthfully said of decedent that he was one of the esteemed residents of that section and his death was sincerely mourned by all. His life and achievements might well be emulated by the rising generation of agriculturists, as his word was as good as his bond and his unselfish devotion to furthering the prestige of his communiy both

materially and morally evoked the admiration of all. He was born on the old Hand place in Butler county in 1837 and lived there all of his life, with the exception of about two years. He was of the type of men who have made Ohio justly famous in the realm of agriculture, being of sturdy physique and always mindful of the best interests of his long residence in Butler county he naturally had a wide acquaintance in that section and those who knew him best admired him most. His parents were William and Cynthia (Fisk) Stevens, and he was fifth in order of birth of ten children: Lorenz D., the eldest; Benjamin, Andrew and Harrison, with their father went to war. The father was from New York and came to Ohio with his parents when three years old. He early in life realized the possibilities of Butler county as an agricultural community and throughout his life was one of the most enthusiastic sponsors of its advantages in this regard. The great-grandfather of George W. was a native of Wales. The mother was a native of Ohio, being reared in Warren county. Her parents were natives of California. The father of George W. Stevens was a colonel in the militia and it is safe to assume that the latter inherited much of his liking for military life from him. Also it might be stated that his attachment for his farm might be readily realized from the fact that he resided here practically all of his life since he was two years of age. He was married in 1865 to Susan Dunham, who was a native of Greenfield, Hancock county, Ind., daughter of Rodney and Rose (Frame) Dunham. Her parents were united in marriage at Michigan City, Ind., and later settled in Hancock county, Ind. The Dunhams came from near Bedford, Mass., and the Frames from Pennsylvania, the latter family residing for a time in Kentucky, later going to Michigan. Three children were born to George W. Stevens and wife: Miss Minnie, who was the wife of John D. Van Ansdall, who died in 1895, she being the mother of two children, Roy, who married Miss Louise Studer of Cincinnati, and who passed away in November, 1918, and Miss Merle, who is the wife of Mr. Ralph Griffis, of Middletown. They have one child, Carmen Lucille; William J., the second in order of birth, married Caroline Elizabeth Van Ness and the couple reside in Reily township, and at the age of sixteen years left home to make his own way in the world. He lived in Cincinnati for some time and learned the trade of painter and decorator. After that he traveled throughout the country, following his trade. He returned to the parental roof in 1917 and has since devoted his attention to assisting his mother in operating the farm. Mrs. Stevens, the widow, is known for her business acumen and it is largely through her alertness and demonstrated ability that her farm has been able to show such gratifying returns. She personally gives her attention to the details of the work of managing this productive property and her achievements are worthy of a woman of her estimable type.

William R. Stewart, of the firm of Stephens & Stewart, began his career at the carpenter's bench and his career has been one of consistent advancement. He was born on a farm in Israel township, Preble county, Ohio, May 31, 1855, a son of William and Margaret (Taylor) Stewart, natives of Ireland, who came to the United

States as a young married couple and after spending two years in Canada located in Preble county, Ohio, where they rounded out their lives in agricultural pursuits. They were highly respected and God-fearing people, and the parents of six children: Elizabeth, deceased; Margaret, Essie, William R., Robert and Hugh. William R. Stewart received a district school education in his native township and was reared on the home farm, and not taking kindly to the routine of an agricultural life, learned the trade of carpenter. He took up his residence at Hamilton, where he followed his trade for some years, and then went to New Mexico, where he worked at his trade for four years, but finally settled down at College Corner, Ohio, where he formed a partnership with George M. Stephens. This contracting firm has built a great many buildings at College Corner, including both banks, and has also erected a number of structures at Hamilton and the schoolhouse at Morning Sun. Mr. Stewart is a master of his calling, skilled in workmanship and capable in executive capacity, and is a business man of high principles who has won the confidence of the people through honest and honorable transactions. He has been prominent in civic affairs, having served as mayor of College Corner, and during his administration did much to advance the interests of his community in a number of ways. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and as a fraternalist he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. In 1909, he married Gertrude, a daughter of William Weidner, of College Corner.

John Turner Stiles, son of Charles and Mary Murhouse (Selvey) Stiles, was born at St. Clairsville, Ohio, February 2, 1873. His mother was also born in St. Clairsville, while his father was a native of New Jersey. The mother's death occurred at Bellaire, Ohio, March 10, 1917; the father is still living. Our subject was one of six children in the family, two of whom are deceased: Lillian, who married John Ritter, is now deceased; Charles and William, in Lancaster, Ohio; Bessie, Mrs. J. Fortner, in Deposit, N. Y.; Osceola, who was Mrs. Warren Dixon, is deceased. July 14, 1895, Mr. Stiles was married to Anna Martin, daughter of John and Sara (Murrin) Martin, of Murrinsville, Pa. Mrs. Stiles had two brothers: George, deceased, and James, who for forty years has been with the H. K. Porter Locomotive works, Pittsburg, Pa. The fathers of both Mr. and Mrs. Stiles served in the Civil war, and each sustained serious injury. Mrs. Stiles' father died when she was a mere girl; the mother died in November, 1915, at Pittsburg. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stiles: George Emery, James Martin, John Turner, who died December 21, 1912; William Clifford, Anna Virginia, who died November 27, 1912; Thomas Benjamin, who died April 21, 1913; Warren Joseph, who died April 30, 1915; and Robert Paul. Three of the deaths occurred within a year—a particularly severe affliction. In 1911, the family moved to Middletown, when Mr. Stiles took a position at the American Rolling Mill company as roller and has since been steadily employed at that plant. The family has a comfortable home on Garfield avenue, where their friends are always given a cordial welcome. Mr. Stiles is a member

of Holy Trinity church and belongs also to the orders of the Eagles and Moose. He is liberal in politics.

Jacob Stock. During the '50s the Stock family located in the Miami valley. Industry, energy, honesty and fidelity, are some of the most marked characteristics of the Stocks, these qualities being especially prominent in the strength of character exhibited by Jacob Stock, of Wayne township. Mr. Stock was born in Bavaria, Germany, January 6, 1839, a son of Frederick and Louisa (Bessburd) Stock, natives of the same country, where they passed their entire lives. They were the parents of eight children, but only the following emigrated to the United States: Christian, who came in 1854 and first located at Seven Mile, Ohio, where he farmed until his removal to Nebraska, his death occurring in the latter state; Louisa, who married Henry Snively, came in 1854, and located at Seven Mile, where both she and her husband died; Susan, who married Henry Schaefer and lived at Seven Mile, where both passed away; and Jacob. Jacob Stock was educated in the home schools of his native land, and was eighteen years of age when he came to America, where he had been preceded by his brother and sisters. In 1857 he commenced farming for Samuel P. Withrow, in Butler county, and later worked for Nathan Jacoby, but as soon as he was able to gather together sufficient funds he ceased working for others and became the proprietor of a rented farm. Thus established, Mr. Stock erected a home of his own by his marriage to Eva Eis, a daughter of John and Dorothea Eis. Mr. Eis was eight years of age when he came to the United States with his parents from Germany, while his wife was a native of Ohio. For fifteen years Mr. Eis worked in the Gebhart & Marshall foundry at Dayton, and when he heard the call of President Lincoln for troops, he enlisted in the Union cause, meeting a soldier's death two years later on the battlefield of Pea Ridge, his widow dying some time later at Dayton. They were the parents of three children: Mrs. Stock; Caroline, deceased, who was the wife of the late Bernhart Renheit; and William, of Chicago, Ill. After marriage, Mr. Stock located at Seven Mile for two years, subsequently spent a short period in Wayne township, and then went to near Somerville, on the county line, where he made his home for four years. He next spent two years on the Trace road on the old Snively farm, and one year on Robert Elliott's place, and finally purchased a farm of 124 acres in section 17, Wayne township. This land was in poor condition and the buildings and equipment badly run down, but Mr. Stock soon remedied matters and within a comparatively short space of time the land was producing large crops, the buildings were substantial and attractive, the equipment was modern in character and effective in use, and the whole breathed an air of prosperity that spoke volumes for its new owner. Mr. Stock continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits on this land until 1907, which had been increased to 211 acres, all located in sections 17 and 20, Wayne township. During his active years, Mr. Stock's business interests always claimed his attention and time, and through careful management, he overcame many obstacles and steadily worked his way upward until prosperity crowned his labors

with a fitting reward. He is a Democrat in his political views, and on several occasions was elected to township office. Mr. and Mrs. Stock were the parents of nine children: Jacob J.; Edward, a farmer near Trenton, Ohio, who married Maggie Hartman and has three children, Mabel, Elwood and Elmer; Catherine, who is single, and a member of the Dayton firm of Tiffany & company, ladies' wearing apparel; Louisa, deceased, who was the wife of George Shafer, of Lemon township; Christian, purchaser of the home farm in 1906, who married Cora F. Phares and has two children, Alma and Theresa; William, who is engaged in farming in Alabama; Callin, who married Smith Watkins, of Seven Mile, and has one son, Joseph; George, bookkeeper in a bank at Portland, Ore., who married Eva Meyers; and Maude, for the past fourteen years bookkeeper with the Union Storage company of Dayton, and also identified with her sister Catherine in the Tiffany company business at Dayton. The children were all sent to the home schools and given the advantages of attendance at a business college. Jacob J. Stock, eldest son of Jacob Stock, was born on the old home place, January 8, 1870, and was twenty-six years of age when he embarked upon his independent career. He first rented land for about ten years, and in 1906 bought his present farm, which he has entirely remodeled and put into fine condition. Among the improvements installed have been a barn, 70x40 feet; a corncrib, 24x36 feet, and a garage, double hog shed and granary. In addition to his own home, which is lighted by the Delco system, he has a five-room tenant house. Mr. Stock raises Polled Durham and Shorthorn cattle, Duroc and Jersey Red hogs, Draft horses and mules and Wyandotte chickens, and feeds a good many cattle. He has always been a hustler and is justly considered one of the best farmers of his neighborhood, and one of the substantial men of his community, and his success is entirely the result of his own efforts. He has always been interested in politics, is a staunch Democrat and has served eight years as a member of the board of township trustees, a position in which he accomplished constructive results.

John C. Stout. Since 1911 the hardware and implement store of John C. Stout has occupied a position of importance among the business houses of College Corner, where it has grown and developed under the impetus formed by the enterprise, industry and good management of its proprietor. Mr. Stout, one of the live and energetic citizens of his community, for the welfare of which he has always been a constructive worker, also has other interests and at this time is the owner of an automobile business which he operates in conjunction with his hardware business. He was born April 29, 1871, at College Corner, a son of Ichabod and Jennie (Campbell) Stout, the former born near College Corner and the latter a native of this place, where she is still living. Ichabod Stout, who was one of the highly respected men of his community during his day, followed farming throughout his life, or until his retirement two years before his death, which occurred May 24, 1917. There were eight children in the family: John C., George, Arthur, Bertha, Harry, Fred, Ruth and Ralph, the last-named of whom was at the Great

Lakes Naval Training station, at Great Lakes, Ill. John C. Stout received a country school education and was reared as a farmer's son. Desiring a broader life than that offered by the agricultural atmosphere, he began selling grain and implements, and for a time operated what was known as the Rigsbee-Stout Elevator, at Bath, Ind., on the C. R. & M. railroad. After this he came to College Corner for E. C. Wright, and later became identified with the International Harvester company with which great corporation he was associated until starting his present hardware and implement business in 1911. From a modest beginning it has grown and flourished under his capable and energetic management, and at this time is one of the leading business establishments of this thriving community, commanding a patronage that extends far over the country. April 1, 1919, Mr. Stout became through purchase the owner of the garage next door to his place of business, which was formerly owned by Charles Kirk, and which was sold to College Corner Motor Sales company, August 8, 1919, and is being very largely patronized by the traveling public. Mr. Stout maintains an excellent reputation in business circles as a man of the highest integrity, and as a citizen his standing is equally high. He is affiliated fraternally with the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and the members of his family belong to the Methodist church. In 1902 he was married to Miss Lorena Summers. They are the parents of five children: Reba, a pupil in high school; Irma and Thelma, attending the graded schools; Mary E., and Opal.

Harry Strauss, successfully engaged in the furniture business at Hamilton, has obtained a firm standing among the rising young merchants of the city, and this satisfying result has been attained through close attention to business, although he is of foreign birth and has been a resident of Hamilton only about ten years. His success is typical of the ability of his fellow-countrymen to accept the opportunities offered them in this country and to utilize them in a manner that results in the acquirement of honorable success. Mr. Strauss was born in Russia, in 1887, and received his education in his native land. There he became a merchant in a small way, but his opportunities for broadening the scope of his enterprise were limited, and he eventually decided to try his foretune in the United States, to which country he made his way as an emigrant in 1910. Locating at Hamilton, he embarked in a modest manner in the second-hand furniture and junk business, but after two years dropped the latter and began to add a stock of new furniture to his establishment. As his business prospered he added to his equipment and facilities, and in March, 1919, moved to the large three-story building at the corner of Third and Ludlow streets, where he has floor space of 36x60 feet, in addition to a store room on Ludlow street, 50x60 feet. He occupies two entire floors, devoted entirely to storerooms and salesrooms, and as soon as conditions permit will install elevator service, when he will open the third floor, also as a salesroom. At this time Mr. Strauss carries a complete line of furniture, carpets, rugs and linoleums, and is doing an excellent busi-

ness. His methods have gained him public confidence and a good patronage, and among his business associates and competitors he is recognized as a man of high principles and honorable methods. He is primarily a business man and has few outside connections. Mr. Strauss was married at Hamilton to Miss Esther Cohen, of Baltimore, Md., and they are the parents of four bright and interesting children: Israel, Sophia, Sarah and Ben. J.

Joseph L. Strauss, of Middletown, who has for a number of years been connected with the American Rolling mill plant, and who has also gained much more than a local reputation in the unique field of amateur photography, was born at Wheeling, W. Va., July 6, 1865, a son of William and Maria (Powers) Strauss, the former of whom is deceased, while the latter still survives. There were four children in the family: Joseph L.; Harry, who is deceased; William, a resident of Wheeling, W. Va., and Hester, the wife of Michael Burke of that city. The father of Mr. Strauss fought as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war, and his army experience doubtless had its effect upon his health, for he died not long after the close of that struggle, when his son Joseph was still a small boy. The latter had to be content with a common school education and he was still little more than a lad when he entered upon his apprenticeship to his trade. For a number of years he worked in various mills in different parts of the country, but eventually came to Middletown, where he entered the American Rolling mill, and has been employed by that concern ever since, at the present time filling the position of sheet roller. He is an industrious workman, a master of his trade, and a man who inspires confidence by his personality and character. He also has a brilliant intellect and much artistic taste, and these have assisted him to become something of a genius in the art of taking kodak pictures. He has developed his skill in this field to a point where he is able to compete with the most highly perfected, and recently in a contest held at the Ohio Mechanics institute, at Cincinnati, he won first prize with his pictures over a field of 250 competitors, among whom were a number of college men. Many of his best specimens adorn the walls of his beautiful home on Woodlawn avenue, recently purchased by Mr. Strauss. In politics he stands for principle, while his fraternal connection is with the local Odd Fellows lodge. November 23, 1887, Mr. Strauss married Minnie, daughter of George and Catherine (Kuhn) Weigand. She has two brothers and one sister: John and George Weigand, of Cincinnati; and Anna, the wife of John Fuehner, of Middletown. Four children have been born to this union: Anna and Joseph L., who reside with their parents; George, who is in the United States service; and Leonard, who married Edna, daughter of James and Annie (Nolan) Martin, and has one child, Leonard, jr. Mr. Weigand, who fought as a soldier during the Civil war, is deceased, having passed away September 1, 1892; but his widow still survives and makes her home at Middletown.

Charles H. Stricker, chief of police of the city of Hamilton, was born in this city September 25, 1874, a son of Frank and Lena Stricker, his father being a railroad man who followed that vocation

for many years. Charles H. Stricker attended the public schools of Hamilton, after leaving which he secured employment with the firm of F. & L. Kahn, where he learned the trade of stove moulder. After continuing with this concern for twelve years, Mr. Stricker established himself in business as the proprietor of a retail liquor establishment, but after four years disposed of his interests therein. June 10, 1908, he was appointed a patrolman on the police force of Hamilton, and in this capacity so thoroughly demonstrated his unusual capacity for all kinds of police work that six months later he was promoted to detective, and when the chief's office was left vacant, April 1, 1916, Mr. Stricker was appointed to the post, which he has since filled. His coolness and bravery as an officer and his skill as a detective has demonstrated a marked administrative ability and has instilled a new spirit of earnestness and reform into the service. Chief Stricker is a valued member of the Police Mutual Aid society and the West Side Mutual Aid society, and his fraternal affiliations include membership in the local lodges of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose. His political adherence is with the Democratic party, which he joined at the time of the attainment of his majority. With the members of his family he attends St. John's church, and has supported its movements liberally. Chief Stricker was united in marriage in 1896 with Catherine, daughter of Henry Wolf, of Hamilton, and to this union there have been born three children: Herbert, Adrain and Merle.

William Stringham has been actively associated with the American Rolling Mills company from the time this important iron and steel corporation initiated operations at its fine and extensive plant at Middletown, Butler county, in 1901, and since 1912 he has held the position of superintendent of the sheet-metal department. He has won secure vantage-ground as one of the broad-gauged and progressive citizens of Middletown, and formerly served as a member of the city council. Mr. Stringham was born December 1, 1875, at New Albany, Ind. In the public schools of his native town he acquired his youthful education, and in Indiana he served also the apprenticeship that eventuated in his becoming an expert artisan in the iron and steel industry. When the American Rolling Mills company established its modern manufactory at Middletown, in 1901, Mr. Stringham came here as one of the original corps of expert employees, and he continued his service as a roller in the mills until 1912, when he was advanced to his present responsible office, in which he has made an admirable record. His personal qualities and invariable fairness have gained and retained to him the confidence and high regard of the workmen, as well as the officials, of the company, in fact his genial personality wins him friends on every side. One who knows him well has stated succinctly that "Everyone who knows Bill Stringham trusts and likes him," and this is unequivocal commendation. He takes loyal interest in community affairs and is known for his civic liberality and progressiveness. He served four years as a member of the city council and has given his co-operation in the support of those measures and undertakings that have tended to advance the best interests of his home city. His political support

is given to the Republican party, he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. On the 27th of September, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Stringham to Miss Catherine Elrick, daughter of David McCullough Elrick and Addie (Jameson) Elrick, of Alexandria, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Stringham have but one child, William, jr., who is a member of the class of 1920, in the Middletown High school.

John Henry Summers, the veterinary surgeon of Oxford, is a son of William and Isabelle (Long) Summers, and was born in Oswego, N. Y., November 28, 1872. His parents were natives of County Down, Ireland. William Summers was a successful and well-known landscape gardener, and was married to Isabelle Long in Oswego. To them were born the following children: William, Mary, John Henry, and Margaret. William Summers is a salesman for a Canandaigua, N. Y., concern. Margaret, now deceased, was married to Lawrence C. Fish, a Brooklyn attorney. William Summers the father, is now dead, but Mrs. Summers is living, and resides in Oswego, N. Y. John Henry Summers received his early education in the schools of Oswego, and later attended the Ontario veterinary college at Toronto, Canada. Upon completing his course there, he entered into practice at Liberty, Ind. In 1897 he came to Oxford, Ohio, and has practised here ever since. In 1914 he married Mrs. Fannie (Coleman) Alstaater, of Oxford, who died March 29, 1918. Dr. Summers is active in Odd Fellows' circles. During the World war he sacrificed a great deal of his time for war activities, being prominently identified with all the drives for loans, Red Cross memberships and contributions. He is a capable practitioner of veterinary surgery and medicine, and his humane work is of great value to the community.

W. K. Swan, was born on the old Swan homestead near Camden, Preble county, Ohio, the son of William and Anna Christine (Kramer) Swan. The latter was the daughter of Philip and Mary (Brudenburg) Kramer, formerly of Fredericktown, Md., subsequently coming to Ohio. The subject of this sketch can trace his ancestry back through successive generations to a period preceding the American Revolution. His father was born in Northumberland county, Pa., and his mother near Darrtown, Butler county, Ohio. They were the parents of two children, William K. and Mary. The latter was united in marriage to Leonard Logan, residing near Greensburg, Ind., and to them was born one son, Pane M. Logan. His paternal grandparents who were married June 10, 1777, were Joseph and Catherine (Denny) Swan. Joseph was born February 28, 1758, and died in August, 1826, while his wife was born in May, 1749, and died July 4, 1829. The preceding generation is represented by William Swan and Eleanor Chestnut, great-grandparents. William, their seventh child, who was born February 3, 1791, was married February 1, 1816, to Eliza Kerr, who was born February 2, 1786, and who died July 14, 1862. W. K. Swan attended district school and finished his education at Miami university. On leaving school, he took up farming in Preble county, Ohio, and was elected

state representative from Preble county. He was married February 26, 1890, to Angeline B. King, daughter of Charles and Sarah (Mountford) King. Sarah Mountford, mother of Mrs. Swan, was born in Belfast, Ireland, and was the daughter of William and Catherine Mountford, members of a distinguished Irish family. William Mountford and family settled in this country, coming to Cincinnati, Ohio, about 1843. The family consisted of eight children, as follows: Malcolm, William, Alexander, Samuel, Hugh, Mary, Martha and Sarah. The Mountford boys were active participants in the Civil war. Malcolm who served as corporal under Gen. Winfield Scott, was killed in January, 1862. To Charles and Sarah (Mountford) King, were born Angeline, wife of W. K. Swan; and Louise. The latter married Charles E. Moss and lives at Richmond, Ind. One child, Mildred R., was born to this union. Mrs. Charles King, mother of Mrs. Swan, is living in Richmond, Ind.; while Charles King is deceased. Following their mariage, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Swan settled on the Swan homestead near Camden, where they lived for twenty-three years, then in 1913, came to their present home, a farm consisting of 250 acres. There are two daughters in the family, Mabel K. and Edith M. Swan, the latter a student at Miami university. Mabel is an accomplished musician, and an instructor in music, having studied at Oxford college. The family are Presbyterians in their church affiliations. Mr. Swan belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and the K. of P. A splendid record of loyalty and war service, covering Red Cross drives and the purchase of Liberty bonds, as well as the support of welfare campaigns, is a source of pride to this household.

Edgar G. Swank, rougher at the American Rolling Mill company plant, is a native of Ohio, a son of George Thomas and Jennie (Kelly) Swank, and was born in Muskingum county. His parents, who are still living, were pioneer settlers in that county, and endured all the trials and hardships of those early days. The Indians were still there and lived in their native state, causing the settlers much uneasiness, great inconvenience and oftentimes placing their lives in jeopardy. Wolves, panthers and similar wild animals abounded. There were no roads and Mr. Swank often cut through brush in front of him as he drove in order that he might make a clearing and thus secure advancement for his team and wagon. Such were some of the early environments of our subject. For sixteen years he was himself a farmer and then entered the rolling mill at Zanesville, Ohio, where he remained until he came to Middleton to take a position as rougher in the local plant. He has two brothers, Lee and Walter, farmers near Zanesville. November 25, 1909, Mr. Swank married Mae Collier, of Wales, daughter of William and Catharine Jenkins. They have no children but have given a good home to and are rearing a beautiful little girl, a niece to Mrs. Swank. Mrs. Swank's father is still living at New Philadelphia, Ohio. Her mother died March 7, 1902. The family has secured a fine home on Baltimore avenue. Mrs. Swank is a member of the First Baptist church and takes an active part in all matters pertaining to the church and its

interests. Mr. Swank is a Mason and K. of P., and in politics, is liberal.

John D. Swearingen, a retired farmer of Liberty township, was born here in 1854, a son of John D. and Julia (Crane) Swearingen, the former of whom came overland to this county with his father, also named John, from Baltimore county, and located in Union township. John, the grandfather of our subject, was the father of twelve children. He served in the war of 1812 and was widely known throughout the east as a man possessing driving force and ability. John D. Swearingen, sr., grew to manhood on the farm and was so enthralled by the outdoor life that he remained an agriculturist to the end of his days. He was the father of seven children, of whom two are now living; John D., jr., and Margaret. The former received his education in the schools of Liberty township and at the Lebanon Normal school, farming during his vacations. Then for an intermediate period of three years he acted as station agent at Hughes station; but the lure of the land was strong upon him so he relinquished the telegraph key for the plow, and took up agriculture on the 153-acre farm on which he now resides. This farm was the old Morrow farm and it was here that the first postoffice in Liberty township was located. He has always conducted a general farming business and has achieved eminent success in his vocation. Mr. Swearingen takes a deep interest in the welfare of his community and served for several years as road supervisor and also as a member of the school board. Politically he is affiliated with the Republican party. He was married to Mattie J., daughter of Frank H. McClung. They are the parents of two children: Ruth, who married B. P. Finkbone, and has two children, Martha Jane and Jean; and Naomi, who married R. B. Pond, and has one child, Ralph, jr.

Jacob Theiss, superintendent of the Butler County Infirmary, has occupied this important post since 1913, and during this period has established a splendid record for public service of a capable and conscientious character. Mr. Theiss was born at Hamilton, Ohio, March 19, 1864, a son of Jacob and Barbara (Cooper) Theiss. His parents, natives of Germany, came to the United States as young people and settled at Hamilton, where the father followed his trade of maltster until his death in 1879, at the age of sixty-four years. Mrs. Theiss, who survives her husband, still resides at Hamilton, and is a member of St. John's Evangelical church. There were seven children in the family: Carrie, who died in 1915 as the wife of Fred Weiman; Lucy, of Hamilton, the widow of Charles Brucks; William, connected with the Cincinnati Brewing company, at Hamilton; Jacob; John, who followed the trade of boiler maker until his death in 1906; Minnie, the wife of John Emsfield of Hamilton; and Mollie, who died unmarried. After attending the public schools of Hamilton, Jacob Theiss learned the trade of moulder, which he followed for seven years. Having been industrious and thrifty, he accumulated sufficient capital to establish himself in business as a retail liquor dealer, and conducted a buffet for twelve years, finally disposing of his interests therein to embark in the cement contract-

ing business. He was thus engaged for five years, when, in 1913, he received the appointment as superintendent of the Butler County Infirmary, a position which he has since filled with rare ability and sagacity. He has evidenced excellent administrative and executive capacity and during his incumbency numerous reforms have been made at the infirmary, which is now accounted one of the best governed institutions of its kind in the state. He centers his interest in the welfare of the wards of the county under his care and is constantly accomplishing things for their comfort. During his long residence in Butler county he has become widely acquainted and numbers among his many friends a number of men of prominence. Mr. Theiss was first married to Miss Mamie Flin, of Butler county, who died in 1882, having been the mother of two children: Mamie, who is connected with a hotel at Hamilton; and Carrie, who married G. R. Holden, of Walla Walla, Wash., and has three children,—Richard, Mamie and Glen B. In October, 1892, Mr. Theiss was again married, being united with Miss Anna B. Maier, who was born at Hamilton, Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Anna (Stengel) Maier. Her parents were born in Germany and came to the United States as young unmarried people, meeting and marrying at Hamilton. Mr. Maier was a stone mason by trade, but for many years followed farming in Butler county. There were nine children in the Maier family: John, a mason and farmer; Anna R., now Mrs. Theiss; Joseph, a stone mason, who died in December, 1917; William, employed as a teamster at Cincinnati; Mary, the wife of Nick Storck of Dayton; Christ and Andy, teamsters at Hamilton; Margaret, who resides at Hamilton; and Celia, the wife of John Glick, of Butler county. Mr. and Mrs. Theiss have five children: Robert J. A.; Clarence J.; Thelma M., who is attending Notre Dame university; Walter C., attending public school at Hamilton; and LeRoy M. The family belongs to St. John's Evangelical church at Hamilton.

August Thiel. One of the families of Middletown which is entitled to display the Gold Star as having given one of its members in sacrifice to the insatiate demands of war, is that of August Thiel, one of whose sons, Frederick, met a soldier's death while serving his country on the bloody fields of Flanders. August Thiel is one of the reliable and substantial citizens of Middletown, where he is one of the head machinists at the Shartle Brothers Machine shop, and owns a beautiful home on McKinley avenue. He is a Republican, although not an office seeker, and he and the members of his family are consistent members and generous supporters of the Lutheran church. Mr. Thiel was married, July 24, 1884, at London, Ohio, to Wilhelmina Springer, and to this union there were born ten children: Elizabeth; Frank, who married Nora McCarthy; John, who married Clara Gardner, of Blanchester, Ohio; Frederick, who went to France with the Rainbow Division and was killed in action, June 17, 1917; Ernest, who went to France with the Rainbow Division, and who remained in the service with the Army of Occupation in Germany; Marie, who is a stenographer at the offices of the American Rolling Mill; Paul, who saw service in the

United States Army Aviation Corps, in South Carolina; and Carl, Albert and Luther, at home.

Harry Thobe, a well-known contractor and builder of Oxford, Ohio, was born at Covington, Ky., February 11, 1870, a son of George H. and Mollie (Evans) Thobe. The father was a sculptor and carver of splendid ability and eminent reputation, who specialized in all kinds of statuary, among his subjects in replica being the Venus de Milo and other works, which are found ornamenting public institutions and private grounds and estates in various cities. He died in 1917, his wife having passed away about 1900. Their children were: Mollie, Kate, Benjamin, John and Harry. Harry Thobe was given his early education in the public schools, following which he attended a night school and was then given an opportunity to develop his talents by a course in the Ohio Mechanics Institute. When he graduated from that institution he traveled all over the United States, working and studying and preparing himself for his future career. For the most part his employment was as a tile-setter, in which work his artistic sense, inherited from his father, was given full play and he was retained on numerous contracts calling for the construction of pretentious works of ornate character. Eventually he located for a time at Middletown, where he erected a home the exterior of which was entirely of boulder construction, but this he later sold and moved to Oxford. Here he erected a home of original design, combining Spanish and Japanese architecture, very artistic in conception, which has been greatly admired and has come to be one of the show-places of the city. As a contractor, Mr. Thobe makes a specialty of all kinds of artistic boulder and brick construction work, especially sunken gardens, fountains, etc. He built the railroad depot at Oxford and three fraternity houses and gave Miami university its beautiful campus fountain. Various other works have been constructed by him, including business houses, residences, public institutions, etc., and several large solid brick chimneys at Oxford are also of his building. As a citizen he has contented himself with being a supporter of movements which have promised to better his community. In 1898 he was united in marriage with Hyla Kellar, of Oxford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Kellar, and to this union there have been born two children: Ralph Kellar, born in 1899, who is associated with his father in his business undertakings; and Myla, born in 1901, who is attending high school and is an accomplished musician and vocalist.

David Thomas. Energy, persistence and patience have been leading factors in the success of David Thomas, who since 1911 has been identified with the American Rolling mill at Middletown. Unlike many of his fellow-employees at this great industrial plant, he did not enter upon his career in the line which he has since made his lifework, but eventually found his proper groove in life in a business for which he is singularly fitted by the inheritance of the strong and stable traits of his Welsh ancestors. Mr. Thomas was born at Sharon, Pa., August 21, 1877, a son of Thomas and Mary (Evans) Thomas, people of Welsh descent, the latter of whom died

when her son was but five years of age. There were five children in the family: David; Henry, of Sharon, Pa.; Anna, the wife of J. H. Wilson, of Youngstown, Ohio; Ida, the wife of John George, of Akron, this state; and Claudia, the wife of Harry Price, of Cleveland, Ohio. David Thomas was educated in the public schools of Sharon, Pa., and as a youth learned the trade of printer, which he followed for three years at Canton, Ohio. From that city he went to Youngstown, where he started to work for the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, a concern with which he remained for five years. In 1911 he came to Middletown to assist in starting the new blooming mill of the American Rolling Mill company, and has since been employed in the capacity of roller. He has the complete confidence and esteem of his employer and has demonstrated his capacity for hard and capable work and his characteristic loyalty to the interests of his company have also served to firmly establish him in its good graces. Mr. Thomas belongs to the Masons, being a Knight Templar, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in all of which he is popular. With his family he belongs to the Baptist church and they reside in a valuable and attractive home at No. 604 Moore street, which Mr. Thomas purchased in 1916. October 29, 1902, Mr. Thomas was united in marriage at Sharon, Pa., with Anna Beulah Hendrickson, who was born at Mercer county, Pa., December 28, 1880, a daughter of Samuel and Theresa (Stephenson) Hendrickson, the former of whom died April 18, 1913, while the latter still survives. There were eight children in the Hendrickson family: Mrs. Thomas; George, who died at the age of forty years; Harvey, a resident of Seattle, Wash.; Richard, of Watervliet, N. Y.; Kate, of Sharon, Pa.; Clara, the wife of Reese James, of Watervliet; Samuel, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Bert R., of Youngstown, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are the parents of five children, as follows: Mary, who was born June 27, 1905; Samuel, born October 13, 1907; Beulah, born September 11, 1910; Margaret, born April 26, 1914; and David, born September 4, 1916.

Mrs. Elisabeth M. Thomas. Among the highly esteemed residents of Poast Town, one who has won and held the good-will and friendship of the people of her community is Mrs. Elizabeth M. Thomas, whose long residence in Butler county has made her well known to its people. She was born on a farm in Madison township, a daughter of Henry and Eleanor (Williamson) Paullin, the former born in 1805 in Ohio and the latter in Butler county, Ohio, in 1812. Both parents came of good stock, and after their marriage settled on a farm in Butler county, Ohio, where they spent the rest of their lives in the pursuit of farming and were highly respected in the community in which they made their home. They were the parents of the following children: Jacob K. and Clinton, who are deceased; Mary Ann, who became the wife of S. Cox and is now deceased; Samuel; Elizabeth M., of this review; Sarah Jane, the wife of Mr. Carney, of Germantown; Eleanor, now Mrs. Jonathan Wycoff, of Franklin; and Rachael, the wife of John Smith, of Seven Mile. Elizabeth M. Thomas was reared on the home farm, where she was

instructed in the various domestic duties connected with an agricultural life, and secured her education by attending the local district school. She remained under the parental roof until she was united in marriage with Gabriel Thomas, a farmer of the same community. Mr. Thomas was a son of Peter and Rachel (Faust) Thomas, natives of Ohio who were pioneers of this region, their parents having come down the Ohio river on a flatboat and settled in the northwest part of Warren county in 1804. The family effects were moved by team from Cincinnati to the virgin farm near Franklin, and there the elder Gabriel Thomas cleared sufficient land to make a home in the forest. Later he became a prosperous farmer, with a comfortable dwelling, and his son, Peter, followed in his footsteps and pursued an agricultural career all his life. He was an industrious and energetic man, who made the most of his opportunities and gained standing and a competence, and when he died, about a quarter of a century ago, his community lost one of its good and public-spirited citizens. Among his holdings was a pretty home at Poast Town, in which his widow has made her home since his demise. This comfortable and attractive little residence is surrounded by a lawn and is otherwise beautified, suggesting the taste of its owner, who is also the owner of the old homestead in Butler county. Mrs. Thomas is a woman of intelligence and numerous graces, and a devout member of the United Brethren church, of Middletown, Ohio.

Benjamin F. Thompson, was born in Reily township, Butler county, May 2, 1849, the son of Henry and Nancy (Arnold) Thompson, who were natives of Ross township. Except for about fifteen years, during which time he engaged in the butcher's trade, his father followed farming, and it was on the home farm in Butler county that Benjamin, with his brothers Robert and William, and his two sisters, Elizabeth and Susan, spent his early life. He received his education in Reily township but soon after leaving school decided to take up agriculture and rented a farm, following this vocation as a renter for fourteen years. He then established a huckstering business which he carried on successfully for nearly twenty-one years, during which time he purchased the truck farm of four acres on which he is now located and where he is carrying on a profitable business in truck gardening. In 1874 he was married to Malissa, daughter of William and Louise Porter. To this union were born nine children, five of whom, Alva, Nancy, Charles, Laura and Earl, are dead. The four children living are: Arthur, who married Lela McCoy to whom one daughter, Ruth, was born; Harry, who married Loretta Campbell, is the father of two children; Benjamin, who married Elizabeth Webber, and Carl, the youngest, who enlisted in the army during the late European war and was sent overseas where he served in the Air Service from June, 1918, to April, 1919.

Charles James Thompson, sr., whose residence at Middletown covers a period of nine years, during which time he has been identified with the American Rolling mill, has become one of the substantial citizens of his community through the exercise of good

management and unabating industry. He has relied solely upon his own resources for the attainment of success, in the gaining of which he has also held the friendship of his co-workers and fellow-citizens. Mr. Thompson was born in England, September 24, 1878, a son of George and Mary (Pigg) Thompson. He was only two years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, who settled at Leechburg, Pa., where George Thompson was employed in the rolling mill until the time of his retirement, several years before his death in October, 1900, his widow following him to the grave in August, 1901. There were eight children in the family: Charles James; Margaret, who became the wife of Charles Taylor, of Canal Dover, Ohio; James, a resident of New Philadelphia, Ohio; Jennie, the wife of P. D. Hancock, of Leechburg, Pa.; Annie, the wife of Harvey Shafor, of Brickchurch, Pa.; John, of Buffalo, N. Y.; Robert, of Schenley, Pa.; and Harry, who entered the United States Army during the World war. He spent many months in the ambulance camp at Allentown, Pa., before being sent to Italy, where he saw much active service, and was at one time stationed in Austria with the Army of Occupation. John Thompson was also in the service, having been a member for eighteen months of Battery D, 304th Field Artillery. Charles James Thompson secured a public school education and then applied himself to the mastery of his trade, which he followed at various places before locating at Middletown, November 11, 1911, at which time he entered the employ of the American Rolling mill. He has since acted in the capacity of a heater, and has rendered services of a character that class him among the reliable, trustworthy and energetic employees of his concern, the officials of which place the utmost confidence in his ability. Mr. Thompson was married December 5, 1901, at Leechburg, Pa., to Blanche, daughter of Hezekiah and Ellen (Hawk) Ashbaugh, who still reside at Leechburg. Her father is a veteran of the Civil war, having been a sergeant for three years in the 78th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. There were twelve children in the Ashbaugh family, as follows: Blanche, who became Mrs. Thompson of this review; Worth, of Duquesne, Pa.; Ninna, now Mrs. D. P. George, of Leechburg, Pa.; Belle, the wife of M. B. Artman, of that place; Emma, the wife of E. P. Wilson, of Pittsburg, Pa.; Kizzie, living with her parents at Leechburg; Will, who is deceased; Kate, the wife of E. Secrist, of Rome, N. Y.; Robert, of Warren, Ohio; May, the wife of Aaron Lindenmuth, of Bucyrus, Ohio; Myra, of Middletown, who married Carroll H. Bussier of Middletown, O.,; and Logan, a gifted musician and artist with a studio at Leechburg, a graduate in music at Leipsic, Germany, and an artist whose paintings have brought large sums. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson: Earl, who died in his fourth year; Marcellene Catherine, born December 31, 1904, and now attending high school; and Clyde George, born March 31, 1907, attending the graded schools. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are consistent members of the Oakland Presbyterian church, and have a modern, attractive home on Michigan avenue. In his political stand, Mr. Thompson is liberal. He is a

progressive citizen who supports good movements, but has not sought public office. Fraternally he belongs to Jefferson Lodge No. 90, F. & A. M.; Leechburg Lodge No. 651, I. O. O. F., and he and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Prosser Chapter, O. E. S.

Harry J. Thompson, who is superintendent of the water and gas department of the city of Hamilton, Ohio, is a practical business man and an expert in his line of industry. He was born at Windsor, in Shelby county, Ill. His parents were Freeman B. and Mary Ann Thompson, both of whom were born in Butler county, Ohio. They moved to Shelby county, Ill., where his father became a substantial farmer, but returned to Butler county and located at Hamilton when Harry J. was an infant. Of their family of eight children four sons survive them, as follows: William B., who resides with his family at Hamilton; James, who is a resident of Denver, Col.; George, who enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war, has been a soldier in the United States Army ever since; and Harry J. Following his public school course, Harry J. Thompson learned the plumbing trade and worked at the same until 1895 as an employee, then embarked in a plumbing and heating business for himself, having shops in different sections of the city at different times. In 1909, he purchased the building at No. 233 Main street, which he has occupied ever since, having comfortable living quarters on the upper floor and his plumbing and heating shop and stock below. Mr. Thompson has prospered through thorough knowledge of his trade and great industry, but in the great flood disaster of 1913, he, like others of his fellow citizens, was forced to see a part of his hard won savings swept away. In 1895, Mr. Thompson married Augusta C. Haas, who was born at Hamilton. The loss of their one son was a grievous tragedy, little Gordon Krone being drowned while in swimming, at the age of nine years. Mr. Thompson is identified with three fraternal orders, the Elks, the Eagles and the Monkeys.

Henry Tiemeyer is a popular and able citizen of Hamilton and a leading Democrat, who, since 1912, has been almost continuously before the public either in appointive or elective positions of responsibility. At the present time he is serving his second term in the office of recorder of Butler county, a position in which he has strengthened his hold upon public confidence and esteem by the thorough, capable and conscientious manner in which he has discharged his duties. Mr. Tiemeyer is a native son of Hamilton, and was born October 18, 1860, his parents being Edward and Elizabeth Tiemeyer, who were married in this city. Edward Tiemeyer came to Hamilton as early as 1844 and for many years followed the trade of carpenter, he and his estimable wife being greatly respected as honest, industrious and God-fearing people. The educational advantages of Henry Tiemeyer were limited to attendance at the Parochial schools, but he was a bright and ambitious lad and made the most of his opportunities. When he left school he secured employment with the firm of M. Bare & Co., with which he worked his way up to the post of foreman. Later he became identified with the M. W. Dingfelder Lumber company, as superintendent of yards,

and it was while thus employed that he was appointed a member of the park commission of Hamilton, in 1912, by Mayor Straub. His capable services in this position attracted attention to his abilities, and in 1916, when the Democratic party nominated him for the office of recorder of Butler county, he received a vote indicative of the people's confidence in him. His first term was one that was marked by good work and faithful performance of duty, and in 1918 he was re-elected. His record has been a clean and serviceable one which has shown that Hamiltonians were correct in their estimation of his character. Mr. Tiemeyer is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus. He married Mary P. Hamann, and they are the parents of two children: Julia, the wife of Alfred A. Klein, of Evansville, Ind.; and Walter H., who is single and resides with his parents.

William D. Tillson, a resident of Middletown for nearly four score years, and now retired, has witnessed the progress and development of this community from small beginnings to the realization of ambitious aims. Mr. Tillson was born in 1841, at Middletown, in the home which he now occupies at No. 223 South Clinton street, a son of George L. and Sarah F. (Drake) Tillson. George L. Tillson was born about 1811, in Massachusetts, and at an early day in the history of Butler county made settlement at Middletown, where he met and married Sarah F. Drake, who was born October 2, 1814, in Virginia. Mr. Tillson was a bricklayer and stone mason by trade, as well as a plasterer, and gradually developed his business until he became a prominent contractor, erecting many homes and other buildings at Middletown and in the surrounding country, and giving employment to a large force of mechanics. William D. Tillson received his education in the public schools of Middletown, and while growing to manhood was engaged largely in assisting his father in his contracting business and in learning the trade of paper making. The Civil war found him an ardent Unionist, and in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, 93d Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he was serving when captured by the enemy near Lexington, Ky., September 1, 1862. He was paroled on the field and exchanged under general order No. 191, November 19, 1862, following which he rejoined his regiment. September 19, 1863, at the battle of Chickamauga, he was wounded by a gunshot in the head, and was subsequently transferred to Company I, 19th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps, May 22, 1864. Mr. Tillson was honorably discharged July 24, 1865. Throughout his service he displayed marked bravery and his army life was one characterized by a soldierly performance of every duty. Returning to his home, the young soldier again took up the trade of paper making, which he followed off and on throughout the period of his active career, although at various times he was otherwise engaged, notably in a pump works, where he was employed for ten years. He was industrious and painstaking in whatever he undertook, the discipline which he had learned while in the army standing him in good stead, and was given advancement in his various positions. Likewise he was frugal and saving, conserving

his earnings carefully, and as a result was able to accumulate a competence which allows him to pass his declining years in comfort. Mr. Tillson has a large fund of reminiscences of Middletown's history and is an interesting conversationalist. He adheres to the principles of the Republican party.

J. W. Timberman, who, after many years of hard work, has become one of the substantial farmers and stock raisers of Ross township, Butler county. He is a native of Butler county, and was born May 4, 1851, a son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Flickinger) Timberman, and a grandson of Mathew and Elizabeth (Harsley) Timberman. Andrew Timberman was born in Tennessee, and as a youth came to Butler county, where he married Miss Flickinger, a native of this locality. They passed their entire lives here in agricultural pursuits and succeeded in gaining and holding the respect and esteem of the people among whom they made their home for so many years. They were the parents of the following children: Hannah, Susan, Mathew, John, Samuel, Jennie, Catherine, Mary, Andrew and Jess. Among these children is Dr. Andrew Timberman, a graduate physician of the Cincinnati Medical college, and now a leading eye, ear, nose and throat specialist at Columbus, Ohio. J. W. Timberman received his education in the public schools of Butler county and was reared to a farmer's life. When he was ready to enter upon his career he settled on a farm in Ross township, and through great industry succeeded in accumulating 202 acres, all of which but ninety acres has been sold. Mr. Timberman has always been justly regarded as one of the prominent cattle men of his locality and an excellent judge of live stock. He makes frequent trips to the large cattle markets, purchasing cattle for local farmers and cattle men, and rarely indeed is his judgment found at fault. In 1904 Mr. Timberman married Gertrude S., daughter of John and Catherine (Schaeffer) Fry, residents of Reily township, Butler county, who had the following children: William S., who served in the United States Regular Army; George K., Samuel, Mary, Sally, Nettie, Jennie, Mattie, Rush and Gertrude S. In politics Mr. Timberman is a Democrat.

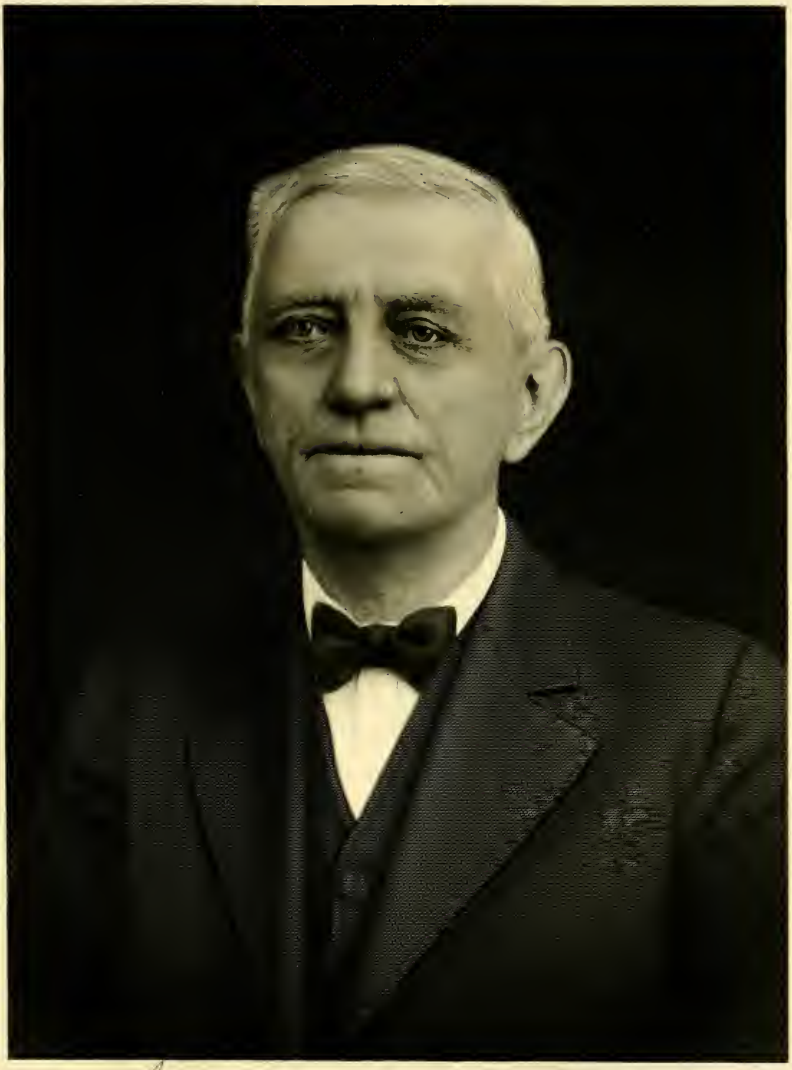
W. L. Tobey. During the extended, active and uniformly successful career of W. L. Tobey, several characteristics have been notable, among them being a great capacity for the accomplishment of able journalistic work and a constant striving after higher ideals and further advancement. Mr. Tobey, who is editor and general manager of the Daily News, of Hamilton, was born November 27, 1870, at Upshur, Preble county, Ohio, and received his early education in the public schools of Winchester, this state. He displayed remarkable prowess in his studies as a lad, and when but fifteen years of age, in 1886, matriculated at Miami university, graduating in 1891 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. During his college career he interested himself chiefly in work of a literary character, and was a member of the Miami Union Literary society and the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. With others, he established the Miami Journal, which became subsequently the Miami Student, a publication which gave a faithful picture of college life at Miami

and of which Mr. Tobey was editor and general manager for three years. While still at college he began work on a catalogue of the Alumni of Miami university, and in 1891 published a triennial catalogue for the board of trustees. His first employment after leaving college was with the Dayton (Ohio) Evening Herald, and subsequently he became editor of the Dayton Sunday Herald. One year after his graduation he was elected editor of the Hamilton Daily Republican, and March 21, 1898, when the Republican Publishing company bought out the News and Telegraph company and consolidated the two papers under the name of the Daily Republican-News, Mr. Tobey was made editor and general manager, and placed in sole control. In 1904 the company erected an addition to its main building, and the plant is today one of the modern establishments of its kind in Ohio. In November, 1904, with four others, Mr. Tobey purchased the Dayton Journal of Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Tobey is not only one of the best-known journalists in this state, but is also prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of Washington Lodge, No. 17, A. F. & A. M.; Hamilton Chapter, No. 21, R. A. M.; Hamilton Council, No. 19, R. & S. M., and Hamilton Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; Hamilton Lodge, No. 93, B. P. O. E.; and Lone Star, Lodge No. 39, K. P. In December, 1895, he was appointed a trustee of Miami university by Governor McKinley, in 1901, was reappointed by Governor Nash, and in June, 1903, was elected president of the board of trustees of that institution. He was a member of the board of directors of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity from 1893 to 1896. Mr. Tobey was married December 19, 1894, to Miss Fannie Douglas Smith, of Hamilton.

Percy C. Todd. One of the important business enterprises of Hamilton, which has been developed into its present prosperous condition through a careful consideration of the needs and wants of the public, as well as through progressive methods and resourceful ideas of business policy, is the book, stationery and office supply store of Forbes & Todd, located at No. 217 High street. Percy C. Todd of this firm has been identified with the business since 1904, it being his first and only independent venture. He is a native of Champaign county, Ohio, born September 1, 1875, and a son of John E and Jane (Mumper) Todd. The parents of Mr. Todd were born in Pennsylvania, from which state they made the trip overland with their parents in a wagon train. Arriving in Champaign county, they cast their lot with the other early settlers, and after their marriage, the parents located on a farm of their own and became well-to-do agriculturists. Both the Todd and Mumper families became numerous and prosperous, and in one community in Champaign county owned farming land covering an area of ten miles. In addition to being a good agriculturist John E. Todd took a part in the affairs of the community that made him widely and favorably known. Until the entry of the Prohibition party into national affairs he was a Republican, but after that cast his support irrevocably with the temperance element and was an earnest worker in its behalf ever after until his death. He was also vitally interested in matters pertaining to the schools, was president of the

board of education for many years, and was also honored by his fellow-citizens by election to various township offices, in all of which he served with marked ability and conscientiousness. He and Mrs. Todd were faithful members and generous supporters of the Presbyterian church. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: Winfield Scott, of Springfield, Ohio, who married Cosette Calvert and has two children; Sarah Margaret and Jean, of Urbana, who are active in local affairs, and during the great war were earnest workers in patriotic movements; John Howard, a newspaperman of Minneapolis, Minn., married; Annie, deceased; Marion R., a prominent farmer of Urbana, and county commissioner, who married Laura Pence; Clarence, who is deceased; and Percy C. Percy C. Todd attended the country schools of Champaign county and the graded schools of Urbana, and was reared on his father's farm, but having no liking for agricultural pursuits, he took up the work of a jeweler and worked on the bench for fifteen years. In 1898 he went to Springfield, Ill., and enlisted in the First Illinois Cavalry for service during the Spanish-American war, the greater part of his service being spent at Chickamauga Park, Chattanooga, Tenn. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and in 1899 came to Hamilton, Ohio, where for five years he was associated with various jewelers. In 1904, recognizing a splendid opportunity, he formed a partnership with L. N. Forbes, and embarked in the book business, purchasing the establishment of E. T. Moore & Sons Co., at No. 147 N. Third street, Hamilton. This business rapidly developed into an important enterprise under the good management of the new partners, and in 1906 the enterprise was moved to larger quarters, its present home, at 217 High street. In 1908 the business was incorporated for $30,000. It has shown no signs of abating its healthy growth and at this time is the leading business of its kind at Hamilton, being accounted a necessary commercial asset. Mr. Todd was married in 1903 to Miss Sarah M. Diefenbach, daughter of C. M. Diefenbach, and a member of one of the earliest settled families of Hamilton. They are the parents of one son, John Burton, aged twelve years, who is attending the Hamilton schools. Mr. and Mrs. Todd reside in their attractive and valuable residence at No. 657 Ross avenue. Mr. Todd bears an excellent reputation in business circles, as is evidenced by the fact that in 1918 he was elected president of the Retail Merchants association. He has also been a director of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Y. M. C. A., and is active and influential in all civic movements. His fraternal affiliation is with the Elks, in addition to which he holds membership in the Butler County Country club and the Spanish-American War Veterans. He and Mrs. Todd are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Todd is a staunch supporter of the Republican party.

W. H. Todhunter, who has been a vigorous figure in the life of Middletown since 1870, was born seventy-six years ago near the village of Monroe, Butler county, Ohio. His sturdy English ancestors early migrated to America, first making their homes in



Sincerely Yours
W. H. Todhunter

Virginia and Pennsylvania, representatives of the family later finding their way into Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas. Jacob Todhunter, grandfather of W. H. Todhunter, trekking westward, settled on a farm in Warren county, Ohio, near what is now Union Village or Shakertown, where he lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years. His elder son, John D. Todhunter, was married in early manhood to Hannah Williamson Clark, daughter of John and Polly (Williamson) Clark, thus joining two prominent and widely known families of this part of the Miami valley. The Todhunters were Quakers, the Clarks, followers of John and Charles Wesley. To John D. Todhunter and his wife, three children were born, William H., Thomas C., and Mary Ella Todhunter Croy all of whom are still living. The elder son, William H. Todhunter, the subject of this sketch, gained his early education in the district schools and the old Presbyterian academy at Monroe, graduating from Ohio Wesleyan university in the class of 1867. Following his graduation from college, the young man became instructor in the co-educational college at Warrentown, Mo., but gave up the teaching profession to take up the study of law in the offices of Doty & Gunckel in Middletown, and later in law lectures in Chicago, being admitted to the bar in 1871. Shortly after his admission to the legal fraternity Mr. Todhunter opened a law office in Middletown, the duties of his profession have engaged his attention from that time until the present, when at the age of seventy-six he is found actively at work every day in the year, a strong, vigorous character. Mr. Todhunter was married in April, 1871, to Miss Jennie C. Wilson. Their family consists of two sons and four daughters, all of whom are married save the youngest daughter who resides with her father in his home at 535 S. Main street. Mrs. Todhunter was taken to the skies in April, 1913.

A diversity of interests has made Mr. Todhunter's life a busy one. Ever a scholar and classicist of the old school, to whom Latin and Greek were as an open book, a lover of education not only for its own sake, but for its purpose to make better men and women, better citizens, the people of Middletown early gave to him a place on the board of education where he served for twenty-five years. During this time, he was the guiding spirit in the erection and equipping of five large school buildings, which will remain as a memorial to him. Mr. Todhunter is not an engineer by training, but he has helped plan more public buildings than any man now living in the city, having been the leader in securing a gift of $25,000 from the late Andrew Carnegie for the building of the free public library in Middletown, opened to the public in 1913 and which perhaps will remain as his best memorial; he was also an active factor in the erection of the Soldier's monument in Woodside cemetery. Another project, as yet unfinished, but in a fair way to be accomplished, within two years time, is the new $500,000 high school building. While still a member of the board of education Mr. Todhunter urged the need of a new high school and his broad understanding previsioned a handsome high school edifice on the Phipps homestead. He was the prime mover in securing a

favorable vote on the first $200,000 bond issue and personally brought about the acquisition of the Phipps property at Sixth and Curtis avenue by the city schools. But schools and a library were not his only interest along building lines. Mr. Todhunter did not hesitate to accept a place on a committee named to build and furnish the present large Broadway Methodist Episcopal church, which was opened and dedicated in 1891 at a cost of $60,000. His efforts did not cease until the heavy debt incurred by its construction was paid in full.

In the half century in which Mr. Todhunter has been a central figure in Middletown, there have been some strenuous contests for better morals in the growing city. In these contests he ever has stood well toward the front of the battle line where the blows fell fiercest, where he did not always escape some severe scars, but in which he and his friends finally won the victory for good government, to the end that Middletown now is one of the cleanest, safest, best governed cities in Ohio. Two years ago the people of his city elected Mr. Todhunter to be judge of the municipal court for a period of four years; he still holds that office and the present good order of the city is due, in no small measure, to his wise and temperate judgments from the bench. Judge Todhunter has found time all through his busy life, to devote a good portion of his time to varied scientific studies of the ever changing times in which he lives, and always has been a deep reader and thinker on literature, economics and religion. He was a newspaper editor for a number of years in Middletown, is the historian of Middletown and of the Broadway Methodist church, and is justly regarded as one of the intellectual men of his city. Judge Todhunter's philosophy of life is summed up in his own words in a simple New Year card sent by him to his friends in 1919 which reads:

"Tho the hills are a bit steeper and the going a bit harder, yet, after more than seventy laps in the journey, I have great joy in reminding you, that the sun still shines, the glories of the firmament still sparkle, the waysides are enchanting and the goal has a charm that is inspiring. On this journey there is no such thing as bad weather, just many kinds of good weather. May we neither be dreamers nor drudges in the year just ahead, doers of things worth-while, is the wish of your friend, W. H. Todhunter."

Written by PAUL J. BANKER.

Frank Treudley, an enterprising and successful merchant of Stockton, Ohio, was born in that place, July 12, 1865, son of Oliver and Orpha (Chambers) Treudley. The father, a soldier in the Civil war, was born near Wheeling, Pa., and the mother in Stockton. After their marriage they settled permanently in Stockton, and for twenty years he acted as agent of the old C. H. & D. railroad. To them were born five children: Frank, the subject of this review; Minnie, Mrs. Curt Smith of Fairfield township, Butler county; Phoebe, married Russel Andrews of Hamilton, Ohio; Tracy; and Almyra P. Frank Treudley, after having finished the course of study in the Stockton schools, became an operator for

the C. H. & D. railroad, and in 1893 married Barbara Lattier, of Stockton, daughter of Mathies Lattier. Mr. Treudley was married a second time, to Louise Schmitt, daughter of Martin and Barbara (Elitzer) Schmitt, both of whom were born in Germany. In 1901, Mr. Treudley embarked in the grocery business at Stockton in a modest manner, and with but a small stock of goods. In the nineteen years that have passed, he has built up a flourishing business, carries a complete and well selected stock of groceries, dry goods, and general merchandise, and is the owner of as fine and prosperous a store as will be found anywhere outside of the largest cities. Mr. and Mrs. Treudley have two daughters: Helen and Mary, both of whom are attending the high school. The family are members of the Methodist church, and in politics Mr. Treudley is an Independent Republican.

F. C. Trowbridge. It is the fortune of some men to rise above their associates, for they possess in a phenomenal degree those attributes which make for success. Their handling of affairs is so masterly that their upward progress is steady and they make prosperous all enterprises with which they are connected. F. C. Trowbridge, for many years one of the substantial business men of Hamilton, is an illustration of the above. Still in the very prime of life, he has already accomplished much more than many men do in a lifetime of continuous effort, and at the same time has not neglected his civic duties, having associated himself with other public-spirited men in the promulgation and successful completion of movements for the general welfare. Mr. Trowbridge was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1865, a son of George W. and Rebecca F. (Sims) Trowbridge, the latter a native of Baltimore, Md. George W. Trowbridge was of English descent, and was for many years engaged in the pork packing business. During the Civil war he was a member of the military guard at Cincinnati, at the time of Morgan's raid, and later was one of the founders of the pork packing firm of Beatty & Trowbridge, which carried on an extensive business at Race and Canal streets, Cincinnati. In his later years, Mr. Trowbridge retired to Crestview Farm, near Glendale, Ohio, but moved to Hamilton, Ohio, to reside with his son after the death of his wife in February, 1917, and passed away at Mercy hospital May 25, 1918. They were the parents of four children: F. C., George J., Archie and James, of whom the two latter are deceased. James, who was a graduate of the Boston School of Technology and had studied in Europe, was a well-known architect with a promising career, when he died in 1887. George J. is a resident of Cincinnati. F. C. Trowbridge was given excellent educational advantages in his youth, attending the public schools of Butler county and Glendale, Ohio, graduating from Chickering institute in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1883, then attending and finishing a course at Rensselaer Polytechnic institute. With this preparation, he came to Hamilton, where he joined the Black-Clawson company, engaged in the manufacture of paper making machinery, pulp machinery, etc., his first position being that of a draughtsman. He was then sent out on the road as a traveling representative of his concern, an ex-

tremely difficult position owing to the great technical knowledge necessary, and in this capacity traveled all over the United States and Canada. At the time of the withdrawal from the firm of Mr. L. P. Clawson, who sold his interests to James G. Hancock, Mr. Trowbridge became an official of the company. In 1898 Mr. Frank X. Black, one of the founders of the business, died, and L. P. Hurm was elected president, Mr. Trowbridge becoming secretary and treasurer. In 1903 the company was reorganized and the old interests were purchased by new factors, Bradford Shinkle becoming president and Mr. Trowbridge remaining as secretary and treasurer. At the time of Mr. Shinkle's death, in 1908, Frank Whittaker became president, advancing from the vice-presidency, and when Mr. Whittaker died Mr. Trowbridge was placed in the chief executive position, which he now occupies. Under his careful direction and progressive methods the plant has expanded considerably and the business has been enlarged to extensive proportions, the product of the concern now meeting with a splendid market in various European counties as well as all countries of the North American continent. During the recent war, 75 per cent of the plant was turned over to work for the United States Government, co-operating in engine building, a field in which the company also manufactured parts of the Eagle boats, assembled at the Ford Motor company's plant, at Detroit. Mr. Trowbridge is justly accounted one of the leading business men of his city, where his interests are numerous and his connections of an important character. He stands high in Masonry, being a Knight Templar, and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He votes the Republican ticket. In September, 1911, Mr. Trowbridge married Miss Caroline Miller. By a former marriage he has two sons: Francis and Frederick.

Frank Truster. For a third of a century Frank Truster has been numbered among the progressive and energetic citizens of Butler county and is at present successfully engaged in farming operations in Wayne township. Following in the footsteps of his father, who was an early resident of this region, he has always been identified with the tilling of the soil, and at the same time has identified himself with measures and enterprises calculated to benefit his community. Mr. Truster was born in Wayne township, January 4, 1866, a son of Louis and Margaret (McFall) Truster. A complete review of this family will be found in the sketch of Jerry Truster, of Collinsville, elsewhere in this work. Frank Truster was educated in the public school at Cotton Run, and when his education was completed he started work as a farm hand and as his father's assistant. He was married in January, 1892, to Sarah Cunningham, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Andrew Cunningham, a review of whose career will be found in the sketch of Harry H. Cunningham, elsewhere in this publication. After his marriage Mr. Truster settled down to establish and develop a farm and home of his own, and his industry, close application and good management have resulted in the securing of a valuable and productive farm of 175 acres. On this, he carried on general farming and stock raising, and in both departments has demonstrated him-

self a thoroughly trained agriculturist, evidencing his progressive spirit by his intelligent use of modern methods in his work. He is a Democrat in politics, and has served efficiently as a member of the school board, and he and the members of his family belong to the Presbyterian church. His support of all war activities was spontaneous and liberal and he has always been accounted a public-spirited citizen of enlightened views. Mr. and Mrs. Truster are the parents of four children: Earl, who is his father's assistant on the home place; Harry H., a high school graduate and now a farmer on his father's place near Jacksonboro, who married Hilda Allspaugh; and Ethel and Marie, who reside with their parents.

Jerry Truster. At present a retired farmer of Collinsville, Jerry Truster has been one of the industrious men of Butler county, linking his name with all that is admirable in farming and wise and progressive in individual life. He has been a lifelong resident of the county, having been born on a farm in Wayne township, September 21, 1861, a son of Louis and Margaret (McFall) Truster, natives also of Butler county, who were married at Somerville. Louis Truster was one of those adventurous souls who answered the call of the west and made the long and hazardous trip across the plains in quest of gold as a "forty-niner," but on his return was content to settle down to the peaceful pursuits of agriculture in Wayne township, dividing his time between farming and wagon making, the latter of which had been his trade in his earlier years. Subsequently he bought the old Pottinger place in the same township, and there occurred the death of his wife in 1866, following which he removed to his home at Dayton, retired from active pursuits, and died at the age of seventy years. He was a man of some influence and importance in his community, and served in the capacity of township trustee, a position to which he was elected on the Democratic ticket. He and his worthy wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church and the parents of: Louis, a farmer of Hanover township, married Rosa Kefer; Anna, the widow of William Wintersteen; Levi, who died in 1894, married Martha Swope; Emanuel, a farmer of Wayne township, who married Jennette Kirkpatrick; Frank, a farmer of Wayne township, who married Ella Cunningham; Lizzie, who married Jacob Hoffman, of Seven Mile; Ruth, who married George Gentry, of Miltonville, Ohio; and Jerry, of this notice. Jerry Truster is indebted to the district schools of his home community for his educational training, to which there has been added the experience and knowledge gained through observation during later years. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he embarked upon a career of his own, and December 25, 1884, was united in marriage with Clara Hardin, of Milford township, daughter of Giles and Mary (Hadley) Hardin, the former of Milford township and the latter of Hendricks county, Ind. Mr. Hardin, who was a farmer all of his life in Milford township, and a highly respected and public-spirited citizen of his community, as well as a staunch Republican, died in 1894, aged fifty-six years, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church. He and his wife, who sur-

vives him and resides at Richmond, Ind., had four children: Clara, who became Mrs. Jerry Truster; George, who was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Preble county, Ohio, married Catherine Conrow, and died at the age of fifty years; Lucinda, who is the wife of R. T. Finley, of Collinsville; and Lee, a resident of Newcastle, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Truster are the parents of the following children: Edgar, a farmer at Collinsville, who married Bertha Beiser and has two children—Roy and Marion; Edith, who is the wife of William Leadwell, a farmer of Milford township, and has one child —Dorothy Mary, the wife of John Gerber, of Milford township, with five children—Helen, Clara, Fred, Paul and Mary; Nellie, the wife of J. W. Hanlon, a telegraph operator at Somerville, Ohio, with two sons—Forrest and Kenneth; and Walter, who joined the U. S. Navy and sailed on the U. S. S. Longback for the Philippines. He also served for fourteen months with an aviation corps in France, and on his return to the United States, settled at Somerville, where he now lives with his parents.. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Truster settled on a farm north of Seven Mile, on which they resided for six years, then moving to the Jacob Inman place, where they lived for seven years. In 1898 they purchased the old Giles Hardin place of 119 acres, in Milford township, upon which they carried on operations for thirteen years, but eventually built their home at Collinsville, where they have resided since, and disposed of the farm by sale in 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Truster are included among the most highly esteemed people of their part of Butler county, and have numerous friends. They are consistent members of the Presbyterian church at Collinsville, and Mr. Truster is an influential Democrat and at one time served as a member of the school board.

William Truster is one of the native sons of Butler county and throughout his career has been identified with farming enterprises which have not only promoted his individual success but have also advanced the development of his section. Mr. Truster was born near Jacksonboro, in Wayne township, May 30, 1864, a son of Louis and Margaret (McFall) Truster, a review of this family being found in the sketch of Jerry Truster, elsewhere in this work. Mr. Truster went to school in Wayne township, where he acquired a good education, and upon the completion of his studies returned to the home place to assist his father. Subsequently he started farming on his own account, and January 4, 1893, was married to Sophia, daughter of Andrew and Frances Wirtley, who resided on the Eaton road and who are now deceased. There were nine children in the Wirtley family: Henry, Joseph, John, Charles, Frank, William, Anna, deceased, who was the wife of William Cunningham; Kate, the wife of Peter Jasbring, living on the Jacksonboro pike; and Sophia, who is now Mrs. Truster. Following his marriage, Mr. Truster moved to a small farm of forty-five acres, on which he carried on operations until 1894, when he moved to his present place, although he is still the owner of his original property. In addition to the 127 acres included in his Wayne township farm on which he lives, and which he rents, he also operates a rented

property of 168 acres adjoining. He is a skilled agriculturist and an intelligent user of modern methods, and through his honorable transactions has gained the respect and good will of his fellow-citizens. He is a Democrat in his political adherence, and he and the members of his family belong to the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Truster are the parents of the following children: Emma, who married Earl Giffey, a farmer of Wayne township, and has one son, Willard; and Mabel, Clyde, Margaret and Robert, who reside at home.

Fielding G. Tullis. One of the well-known agriculturists of Butler county, Fielding G. Tullis has for twenty-two years resided on his present property in Lemon township, and at the same time has been a participant in many of the movements which have assisted in bringing prosperity to this locality. He was born September 4, 1856, at 17 Chestnut street, Cincinnati, Ohio, a son of Thomas Barber Tullis, and grandson of David Tullis, a pioneer farmer of Hamilton county, Ohio. Thomas B. Tullis was born in Hamilton county, where he attended the public schools and grew to manhood, and in the same community was married and resided for several years thereafter. Going then to Cincinnati, he engaged for a time in teaming, but subsequently became the proprietor of the Fifth Street market, with which he was connected for some years. With George McGee, another auctioneer, he conducted many sales, some as high as $20,000 to $25,000, and was a man of prominence and well known in his day. He was a staunch Democrat and active in politics, and when he passed away, at Carthage, Ohio, aged seventy-four years, his community lost a good and public-spirited citizen. Mrs. Tullis died at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: David and Delia, who are deceased; Fielding G.; Jack, a resident of Hartwell, Ohio; Emma, of Wyoming, Ohio; Washington, deceased; Ad, a blacksmith of Hartwell, Ohio; and Nellie, deceased. Fielding G. Tullis attended the public schools of his native city, and at the age of sixteen years came to Lemon township, Butler county, where he secured employment as a farm hand, with Bruce Harkrader. With his brother he then returned to Cincinnati, where he worked as a carriage blacksmith for William Brickle, subsequently going to Blue Ball, where he farmed for James Wihr, for whom he also trained three racing horses. His next location was in Warren county, where he farmed for James Meyer, and while residing in that vicinity was married to Catherine, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Augsperger) Meyer. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer were born in France and came as single young people to America locating in the vicinity of Trenton, where they met and were married, subsequently going to Warren county. Settling near Blue Ball they were among the early farmers of that vicinity and there accumulated a splendid farm of 400 acres, a good deal of which they themselves cleared. They installed fine equipment and numerous improvements and developed an ideal country home. Of their ten children, only four are living: Mrs. Tullis; Caroline, a resident of Illinois; John, who lives in the state of Washington; and Charles, of Seattle, Wash.

Joseph Meyer was a minister in the Mennonite church and was a man of prominence and influence in his community during his day. He was highly respected and esteemed not only for what he had accomplished, but because of the honorable manner in which he always conducted his dealings. To Mr. and Mrs. Tullis there have been born four children: Allie May, who married Elmer Fisher, a farmer of Lemon township, and has a sketch of his career in this work; John Walter, who is also a farmer of Lemon township and is married; and Mabel Augusta, who resides with her parents, one of the popular young ladies of her community, with a talent for fashionable dressmaking; and Christian Meyer. Following his marriage, Mr. Tullis resided in Hamilton county for two years, and later farmed on rented land for three years. In 1897 he came to Lemon township, Butler county, where he bought the old John Russell property of twenty-seven acres, which he now has under a fine state of cultivation, doing general farming, raising some tobacco, and also breeding some dairy stock. He is accounted a skilled and thoroughly informed farmer and is making a success of his operations. Mr. Tullis is an ardent and active Democrat and has always taken a keen interest in township and county affairs. At present he is presiding judge of elections and supervisor of roads, and has supervision over sixteen miles of highways. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. A well-read, well-informed man, he is able to differentiate between movements that are beneficial and those detrimental, and his support will always be found on the side that makes for progress and general advancement.

John W. Tullis. The roster of progressive agriculturists of Butler county includes the name of John W. Tullis, whose energetic opeartions have been carried on near Middletown for several years. He is now the owner of a sixty-nine-acre farm located on the Franklin road, and not only has been successful in tobacco growing, but has also developed an extensive and prosperous dairy business. Mr. Tullis was born at Blue Ball, Warren county, Ohio, in 1882, a son of F. G. and Katy (Myers) Tullis, the former born at Cincinnati, in 1856, and the latter a native of the Busenbark community of Butler county. The father has followed agricultural pursuits all his life and at present is a resident of Butler county, having retired somewhat from active labors. The boyhood and youth of John W. Tullis were passed in much the same manner as those of other farmers' sons in his locality. While he was growing up on the farm, he received his education in the district schools of the vicinity of the homestead and further prepared himself by attending the public schools of Trenton, and when it came to a decision as to his lifework he unhesitatingly chose the vocation of farming. In 1908 he established a home of his own at the time of his marriage to Hannah, daughter of Fred and Mary (Ohm) Helsinger, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Mount Healthy, Ohio, and to this union there have been born two children: Marvin, who died April 13, 1918, at the age of eight years; and Glen. Mr. Tullis has sixty-nine acres of land in a high state

of cultivation, and devotes the greater part of his attention to raising tobacco, a field of endeavor in which he has been very successful. He has also developed an extensive and growing dairy business through energetic methods and good business management, and maintains a splendid herd of Holstein cattle. His business and personal qualifications entitle him to the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen, and the manner in which he has supported beneficial movements has left no doubt as to his public spirit and good citizenship.

Christian Unzicker, a well-known agriculturist of Butler county and whose specialty is truck gardening at Oxford, is a representative of a well known and highly honored family of this part of the Miami valley region. He was born on a farm in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, April 2, 1842, a son of Daniel and Magdalena (Kahn) Unzicker. His parents, natives of Bavaria, Germany, emigrated to America in young married life, and after a short residence in Canada removed to Pennsylvania, from where they came to Butler county. Daniel Unzicker was born March 4, 1798, and was married January 28, 1821, to Miss Kahn, who was born December 4, 1801. About 1828 they came to Butler county, and for a time resided at Overpeck, but later moved to Milford township, where the father secured eighty acres of land for $300. This was a tract of school land upon which was a small clearing and an old log cabin and stable. Upon this land he erected a stone house, which is still standing, as well as a good barn, and this he continued to farm during the remainder of his life, accumulating 160 acres of valuable property. He died September 18, 1863, at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife survived him until December 28, 1880, being seventy-nine years of age at the time of her demise. He was a Democrat voter, and while not an office seeker was a good and public-spirited citizen. He was a faithful and active member of the Mennonite church, and became a preacher of that faith, and was highly esteemed and respected in the community in which the greater part of his life was spent. He and his worthy wife were the parents of the following children: Peter, deceased, who was a stone mason and farmer, married Catherine Shirtz; Magdalena, deceased, who was the wife of David Augsperger; Valentine, deceased, who was a farmer, married Magdalena Shirtz; Catherine, deceased, who married Jacob Zimmerman, Daniel, deceased, who was a shoemaker and farmer, married Jacobina Berkey; Joseph, deceased, who was a carpenter and farmer, married Magdalena Smucker; Elizabeth, single, who is a resident of Oxford; Barbara, deceased, who was the wife of Daniel Schoenbeck; John, deceased, who was a farmer, married Mary Slonacker; Maria, who died in infancy; Jacob, a retired citizen of Collinsville, who married Veronica Slonacker; Christian, of this notice; and David, a farmer of Edwards county, Kans., who married Ella Kessler and after her death Christina Donner. Christian Unzicker secured his educational training in the schools of his home county, and was reared to agricultural pursuits on the home farm, where he remained until his marriage, at the age of twenty-six years,

to Mahala Williams, who was born near Terre Haute, Ind., and died December 16, 1910. They became the parents of six children: Elmer E., an electrician of Dayton, who married Ethel Rake and has two children,—Marion and Frances; Minnie, who married Joe Burns of Milford township and has two children,—Edward and Robert; Clara, who married Fred Ziliox of Hamilton, and has three children,—Edna, Hazel and Louise; Jessie, who married Harry Rhodabaugh of Findlay, Ohio, and has three children,—James, Lewis and Martha; Edna, who has always lived at home, a former teacher at Liberty, Ind., and College Corners and Clifton, Ohio, who is now the popular teacher of the school at Kenton, this state; and Bertha, who has always lived with her parents. After his marriage, Christian Unzicker lived at Collinsville for one year, and then engaged in farming north of this place for six years, near Seven Mile for three years, at Collinsville for another year and near Darrtown for seventeen years. He then purchased a farm from Christian Goldsmith, which he operated successfully for five years, and in 1902 built his present home at 510 Maple avenue, where he has since lived in comfortable semi-retirement. He also carries on truck farming on five acres of land surrounding his comfortable and attractive residence. Mr. Unzicker is a man who is highly esteemed by his neighbors and acquaintances, and his service as a public official has included one term in the position of school director of Milford township. He is a Democrat in his political affiliation, and he and the members of his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Jacob Unzicker. Butler county has profited by the stable citizenship and faithful industry of the Unzicker family since the latter 'twenties. Practically all bearing the name have been interested in agriculture, but their services have been extended also to politics, education, religion and society. Jacob Unzicker, one of the old and honored residents of Collinsville, represents the second generation of this family in the community, and is now living in comfortable retirement after many years spent in agricultural operations. Mr. Unzicker was born on a farm in Milford township, Butler county, Ohio, September 7, 1840, a son of Daniel and Magdalena (Kahn) Unzicker, natives of Bavaria, who emigrated first to Canada and later to Pennsylvania. Daniel Unzicker was born March 4, 1798, and January 28, 1821, married Miss Kahn, who was born December 4, 1801, she dying July 28, 1880, while he passed away September 18, 1863. About 1828 they came to Butler county, Ohio, and for a time resided at Overpeck, but subsequently removed to Milford township, where Mr. Unzicker secured 160 acres. For his first eighty acres he paid $300, this being school land upon which there was a small clearing and an old log cabin and stable. He erected a stone house, which is still standing as one of the community's old landmarks, as well as a good barn, and continued to be engaged in farming all his life. He voted the Democratic ticket but was not an office seeker. A member of the Mennonite church, he became a preacher of that faith, and was a man who was highly esteemed and respected throughout the community. He and his

worthy wife were the parents of the following children: Peter, deceased, who was a stone mason and farmer, married Catherine Shirtz; Magdalena, deceased, who was the wife of David Augsperger; Valentine, deceased, who was a farmer, married Magdalena Shirtz; Catherine, deceased, who married Jacob Zimmerman; Daniel, deceased, who was a shoemaker and farmer, married Jacobina Berkey; Joseph, deceased, who was a carpenter and farmer, married Magdalena Smucker; Barbara, deceased, who was the wife of Daniel Schoenbeck; John, deceased, who was a farmer, married Mary Slonacker; Maria, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, single, who is a resident of Oxford, Ohio; Jacob, of this notice; Christian, a resident of Oxford; and David, a farmer of Edwards county, Kan., who married Ella Kessler and after her death Christina Donner. Jacob Unzicker was educated in the home schools and remained on the homestead place up to the time of his marriage, January 9, 1865, to Veronica Slonacker, who was born in Milford township, January 4, 1836, a daughter of John and Barbara (Schlatter) Slonacker, natives of Switzerland, the father born May 22, 1809, in the western part, on French soil. Mrs. Unzicker's paternal grandfather married Fanny Lichty, born in France, who died when John Slonacker was five years of age. After her husband's death, in 1814, the grandmother married John Ramseyer, and with her seven children came to the United States on an old sailing vessel which took thirty-five days to make the voyage, landing March 24, 1824. While working on a farm in Pennsylvania, Mrs. Unzicker's father had the pleasure of meeting the great patriot, LaFayette. In 1823 the widow and children settled in Butler county and John Slonacker lived at the home with his mother until his marriage, in June, 1834. Two years later he cast his first presidential vote in favor of Martin Van Buren. Mr. Slonacker purchased a sixty-three acre farm in Milford township, on which was situated an old log cabin and barn, and for fourteen years he made his home there, then moving two miles north of Collinsville, and finally to Collinsville, where he died July 15, 1905, his wife dying March 19, 1896. They had ten children: Mary, deceased, who was the wife of John Unzicker; Fannie; Veronica; John, deceased; Ann, deceased; John, of Trenton, who married Louisa Fink; Christian, deceased; Barbara, deceased, who was the wife of Christian Goldsmith, of Collinsville; Joseph, deceased; Katherine, of Trenton, who married Christian Ummell; and Joseph W., of Hamilton, who married Anna Somer. In 1884, upon the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Slonacker removed to their home at Collinsville, and it was there that Mr. Slonacker passed away December 13, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Unzicker had the following children: John, a teacher of Hamilton, who married Annie Folkerson and after her death Alma Iwig, and has four children, namely, Mrs. Ruth Whiteherst, Paul, Grace and Florence; Mary, born August 11, 1869, married John Dance, of Fowlertown, Ind., and has three children,—Florence, Fern and Lynn; Magdalena, born October 20, 1870, who is residing with her parents; and Daniel, born April 17, 1878, who is farming the home place of his father, married Mary Bauer, and has

two children,—Helen and Fred. After his marriage, Jacob Unzicker was engaged in farming in Stony Hollow, Milford township, for two years and then went to the old home place, where he spent fifteen years. He built the home in 1867 and lived therein until 1884, in December of which year he took up his residence on the old Slonacker place, where he remained until 1904. He then moved to Collinsville, where in 1905 he built his present home, and since then has been retired from active pursuits. He has always been a farmer and a good one, and is a man well known and highly respected in the county, where he has many friends. He has not been a politician or an office seeker, but is a staunch Democrat and has recognized and fully discharged the duties of citizenship, having served efficiently and conscientiously as a school director of Milford township for nine years and as assessor for one year. His personal probity and integrity have won the confidence of the people of his locality, where he is an influential factor in securing the adoption of measures for the civic welfare. He and his wife are faithful members of the Mennonite church at Trenton, while his daughter, Magdalena, belongs to the Presbyterian church at Collinsville.

Benjamin Harrison Upton. One of the younger generation of dependable workers at the Middletown plant of the American Rolling mill, Benjamin Harrison Upton belongs also to the category in which is included the self-made men of this plant, for the success that he has gained has been entirely of his own making, he having started out in life with naught to aid him except his own ambition and determination. He was born January 1, 1888, in Kenton county, Ky., a son of John and Alameda (Feder) Upton. The family moved to Middletown in 1896, and here Mrs. Upton died September 20, 1910, while the father still survives. There were ten children in the family, and those still living make their home at Middletown: Addie, the wife of George Nill; Clara; Nathan; Robert; Margaret, the wife of Fred Baker; Walter, who is deceased; Ethel, the wife of Elmer Jewell; Benjamin H.; Mabel and Mildred. Benjamin H. Upton was eight years of age when he accompanied his parents to Middletown, and in the public schools of this community his educational training was procured. Following his completion of studies he began to learn his trade in the plant of the American Rolling mill, with which large concern he has continued to be connected, at this time holding the responsible position of sheet roller. His reliability in the discharge of his duties and his fidelity to the best interests of the plant have gained him the confidence of his superiors, while at the same time he has won the friendship and esteem of his fellow-workers that is only obtained through a display of good comradeship and a strict living up to responsibilities. He is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the word and is eminently deserving of the prosperity that has come to him. One of Mr. Upton's most admirable characteristics is his devotion to his brothers and sisters. Since the death of his mother, he has not only made a home for his two younger sisters, but has put them through school and given them the advantages of a business college education at Dayton. He is a man of intelligence and strong force

Benj. H. Upton

Angie Upton

of character, and in his political stand takes the viewpoint of principle rather than of party. His religious connection is with the United Brethren church. June 27, 1908, Mr. Upton was united in marriage with Miss Angie Taylor, who was born March 13, 1889, at Portsmouth. Ohio, daughter of Leonard Wesley and Fannie (Brimmer) Taylor, of Batavia, Ohio. The mother of Mrs. Upton died in 1891, while the father still survives and makes his home at Portsmouth. Three sisters and one brother of Mrs. Upton are deceased: one who died in infancy, Clifford, Winnie and Bessie. Another brother, Charles L. Taylor, who married Nellie Brant, resides at Columbus, O., and has one child,—Laura Angeline. Mr. and Mrs. Upton have no children. Mrs. Upton has taken a helpful interest in church work, being secretary of the Sunshine Circle and active in the Missionary society. Mr. and Mrs. Upton have as their home a beautiful brick residence, known as Upton Villa, located on Linden avenue in Arlington square.

V. P. Urbain, M. D. and D. O., osteopathic physician, who has been engaged in a successful practice at Hamilton since 1902, was born in Peoria county, Ill., in 1873, and his early schooling was received at Kirkville, Iowa, whither his parents had removed when he was a small lad. Leaving school, he worked on a farm with his parents and in the meantime attended high school, and in 1898 entered the School of Osteopathy, at Kirksville, Mo., from which he was duly graduated in 1900, with the degree of D. O. Later he went to Chicago, where, in 1903, he received the degree of M. D. from the Hahnemann Medical college, and later, in 1911, graduated from the Eclectic Medical college, of Cincinnati. In the meantime, in 1902, Doctor Urbain had settled at Hamilton, where he had established himself in practice, and where he has since built up a splendid clientele and reached an enviable place in the ranks of his calling. His sister, Dr. Mary Urbain, a graduate of the School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo., class of 1900, is associated with him in practice. Doctor V. P. Urbain is a member of the Ohio State Eclectic and the National Eclectic Medical societies, the American Osteopathic association and the Southwest Ohio Medical association. His fraternal affiliations include membership in the lodges of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knigths of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen of America. As a voter, the Doctor supports the Democratic party's candidates and policies, and he and the members of his family belong to the Catholic church. Doctor Urbain was united in matrimony in 1905 with Miss Jessie Handy, and to this union there have been born two sons: Joseph and Paul.

M. D. Urmston. One of the best improved and most attractive farms in Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, is the property of M. D. Urmston, who not only takes a personal pride in adopting every modern facility which an up to date farm should have, but he does everything in his power to encourage scientific farm methods on the part of his neighbor so that the prestige of the township in the realm of agriculture may be maintained. He is of the most pronounced type of the progressive young farmer and

realizes that the future for his holdings is such that he should not neglect any opportunity to make the best of his good fortune. He comes from a family that is in position to point to record of achievement as agriculturists. Born in Fairfield township, Butler county, Ohio, he was one of six children of Benton E. and Martha Ellen (Emerick) Urmston, the other children being: Bessie Alma, Murray David, Paul Robert, Nellie Irene, Earl Benton and Hugh James, now deceased. The father was a native of Butler county, having been born May 16, 1849. He received his early schooling in Butler county and later attended the normal school at Lebanon, Ohio. He assisted in operating his father's farm until his marriage, when he purchased the farm on which he is now living in Fairfield township. This farm has always yielded most gratifying returns from a financial standpoint and is improved with a modern home. At one time he owned four hundred acres of land in this locality. His wife was born in Hanover township, Butler county, January 24, 1854. Benton Urmston's father was David Urmston, who was a native of England and emigrated to this country, locating in Butler county, where he entered a section of land four miles east of Hamilton, which became known as the Urmston homestead. He married Mary Enyeart, a native of New Jersey, and to this union seven children were born, David being the youngest. In his time he was prominent in the politics of Butler county, holding a number of public offices. He married Nancy Stone, who was born on the old Stone homestead in Fairfield township, Butler county, and the daughter of Thomas Stone, a native of Ireland, and an early settler in the county. To this union seven children were born—John, Mary, Jennie, Benton, father of M. D. Urmston, Emma F., Bell and Robert. M. D. Urmston received his education in the schools of Fairfield township. Later he was graduated from the high school at Hamilton, Ohio, in 1897, and then attended business college in Hamilton one year. He returned to farming with his father and remained with him until he launched out for himself in 1907 on the farm which he is now occupying. This tract consists of 220 acres and it may be said to the credit of Mr. Urmston that every acre is productive. Besides general farming he is a breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle and this adjunct of the business has been growing in importance from year to year. In 1906 he married Miss Ora Gertrude Howald and two children were born to this union: Dorothy and Louise. He has been a member of the Butler County Fair Board a number of years and has served as secretary of this organization for the last three years. He has membership in the K. of P. and is an Elk. He is much impressed with the agricultural future of Liberty township and may always be found behind movements that will promote the best interests of his community.

Samuel E. Vail, who for some years followed various occupations other than agriculture, but who is now the owner and operator of a handsome farm of 112 acres in Union township, is a product of the farm, born in Hamilton county, Ohio, March 30, 1862, a son of Samuel and Keziah Vail, who passed their lives as agricultural people of Hamilton county, and a grandson of Samuel Vail, of New

Jersey, who also applied himself to the cultivation of the soil throughout his career. Samuel E. Vail was one of a family of seven children, of whom five are now living, and received his education in the public schools of Hamilton county. Until he was twenty-five years of age he was associated with his father on the home place, and at that time was married and took up his residence at Dayton, where he secured employment in the large car shops of Barney & Smith. Several years later he went to Evansville, Ind., where for five years he worked in the ice plant, his next location being Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was employed several years by the Big Four railroad. Coming to Butler county at that time, he invested his savings in a farm of 112 acres, located in Union township, and here he has succeeded through well-directed industry in developing a productive and well-improved property. He is a Democrat but not an office-seeker, and is a supporter of all beneficial movements promoted in his community. With his family, he belongs to the Catholic church at West Chester. Mr. Vail married Elizabeth, daughter of Gabriel Wirsch, and they are the parents of one son: Samuel, a farmer of Union township, who married Marie Apkin, and has three children—William, Charles and Mary Catherine.

Fred VanAtta, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Klamroth) VanAtta, was born at Weston, Wood county, Ohio, August 29, 1874. The family moved to Findlay, Ohio, where Fred attended school in District No. 9. After leaving school he commenced railroad work and rapidly advanced to the position of engineer, which vocation he followed for many years. About fourteen years ago, he became associated with the American Rolling Mill company, at Middletown, as a machinist, and ranks high for efficiency and capability. Mr. VanAtta was married December 30, 1897, to Emma Rice, daughter of James and Amelia (Field) Rice, of Williamsburg, Ohio. Mr. VanAtta had a sister and three brothers: the sister died in infancy; George and Harvey live in Findlay, Ohio; Charles, in Erie, Pa. His father, a veteran of the Civil war, died in 1911; his mother, March 20, 1877. Mrs. VanAtta's father lives at Williamsburg; her mother died in March, 1908. Her grandfather was a Civil war veteran. Mrs. VanAtta had two sisters, Mrs. Harry Moyer at Waynesburg, Ohio, and Mrs. Frank Rick at Cincinnati. Mrs. Rick has since passed away. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. VanAtta—James Homer and Samuel Gage. James Homer, born September 13, 1899, graduated from the Middletown High school class of 1917, and immediately thereafter entered the U. S. Navy as a landsman for yeomen and was advanced to yeoman of first class and made three trips to Brest and one to Bordeaux. He is now ship's writer on the U. S. S. Camden, stationed at Philadelphia. He took his first training at Newport, R. I., and completing there an 8-months' course in 6 weeks, was placed in charge of the secret codes. He had over one thousand men and many vessels under his supervision. Samuel Gage was born February 6, 1902; was educated in the public schools of Middletown and was attending the Ohio Mechanical institute at Cincinnati when he enlisted

with the U. S. Marines. He is a bugler with Company D, 11th regiment Marines; became a pistol expert at Quantico and a rifle expert at Paris Island. He served eleven months in France and his company was in readiness to go over the top when the armistice was signed. The parents are justly proud of their sons—brilliant young men of fine appearance, almost six feet in height and robust physique. Mr. VanAtta is an Odd Fellow, and a speaker of some note and is often called upon to address various meetings of the order. In church relations, he is a Methodist; in politics a Republican.

Robert C. Van Derveer, who since his arrival at Middletown in 1899 has built up a large and flourishing business from small beginnings, is now proprietor of the Union laundry and one of his community's substantial business men. He has likewise been identified more or less prominently with public matters, having served as president of the city council and in other capacities. Mr. Van Derveer was born near Carlisle, Warren county, Ohio, November 10, 1866, a son of Tunis and Lydia Van Derveer. The name of this family figures prominently in the early settlement of Warren county, as well as in its later progress and development, for members of the family were among the pioneers and their descendants have contributed in marked degree to the movements which have brought forth a prosperous and thriving community. The great-grandfather of Robert C. Van Derveer was Tunis Van Derveer, who came from New Jersey to the locality which afterward included the town of Carlisle, in 1804, on a prospecting trip, and, liking the country and seeing its future prosperity, bought a large tract of land. At that time he returned to New Jersey, but in 1813 again came to Warren county, this time to remain and to aid in the work of settlement. With him on his second trip came his son, Benjamin Van Derveer, who likewise aided in the work of paving the way for civilization, and who, like his father, passed the remaining years of his life here in clearing and cultivating a farm. Following in their footsteps was the second Tunis, father of Robert C. Van Derveer, who was born at the little settlement of Carlisle, which later grew into a colony and then a thriving town. His early years were passed amid primitive surroundings and his education limited to attendance at the public schools, but he became a successful man in his later years and was looked upon as one of his community's successful and substantial agriculturists. Robert C. Van Derveer grew to manhood on his father's farm and secured his education in the public schools. While his ancestors for a number of generations had been farmers, he did not take kindly to an agricultural life, his tendencies running more in the direction of trade and commerce. Accordingly, in 1899, he came to Middletown, where he started a small venture which he called the Union laundry. Modest at its inception, this enterprise grew with the city and flourished under Mr. Van Derveer's energetic management, so that today it is recognized as one of the substantial establishments of the city. He now controls a large and representative business of the best class of patronage. Mr. Van Derveer, as before noted, has found time from

his business duties to devote to public matters, and has been an active worker in movements which have benefited civic conditions. Recognized as a man of force of character and ability, he has been elected by his fellow-citizens to positions of trust and responsibility, having served capably as president of the city council and in various other capacities. His political belief causes him to give his support to the Republican party, and his fraternal affiliations are with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias. With his family, he belongs to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Van Derveer was married, in 1900, to Elma, daughter of William and Minerva Wilson, of Red Lion, Ohio, and three children have been born to this union: Esther, Robert Wilson and Dorothy.

Robert Van Ness, who was formerly an implement dealer and also identified with the handling of fruit, and who, since 1916, has not engaged in active labor, was born in Franklin county, Ind., January 17, 1874, a son of Thomas W. and Jane (Riggs) Van Ness, natives of Butler county, Ohio, where the former was born on a Riley township farm. Some time after the birth of their son Robert, the parents removed to Franklin county, Ind., where they rounded out long and honorable careers in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and where both passed away. They became the parents of the following children: John, who is a retired citizen of Oxford; Gideon, who still carries on farming on the home place in Franklin county; Mathew P.; Robert; Lucy, who became the wife of Albert Coffey, of Franklin county, where they make their home; and one child who died at the age of six years. The parents of these children were highly esteemed in the several communities in which they made their home, and reared their children to lives of probity and usefulness. Robert Van Ness was reared on the homestead in Franklin county, Ind., in the vicinity of which he secured his education in the country schools, making the most of his opportunities and gleaning all the information obtainable, so that today he is a well-educated and broadly informed man. For a time he applied himself to farming, but finally became interested in the implement business, and was the proprietor of such an establishment in Oxford. For some years he continued to be engaged in this, building up a large and important business, but finally disposed of his interests therein and turned his attention to the fruit business, buying and selling in carload lots. This also proved to be a prosperous business, under his capable and energetic management. In 1916, he retired from active participation in business affairs, and since then has been living quietly in his comfortable home at Oxford, a modern residence which he had erected in 1910. Mr. Van Ness was married June 2, 1901, at Oxford, to Anna, daughter of James and Sarah (Simpson) Salyer, farming people just outside of the corporation limits of Oxford, in Oxford township, where they are well known and highly esteemed. There were eight children in the Salyer family: Emmett; Erry; Denver; Maude; Susan; Anna, now Mrs. Van Ness; Ida, the wife of Harry Hammond, an automobile dealer of Oxford; and Clifford. Mrs. Van Ness is a woman of sterling qualities, whose faithful assistance has greatly

helped her husband in his attainment of prosperity and position.

Frank K. Vaughn. Hamilton is pre-eminently an industrial center. Its industries are far-famed for the excellence of their products, and to Hamilton is due, in great measure, the credit of contributiing a very generous share to the sum total of Ohio's reputation as one of the foremost states in the Union. The growth of Hamilton has been steady and substantial. Some of its products are known throughout the country as the best in their line. Its business men are progressive and alive to all avenues of progress. To them, in the largest sense, is due the present activities in all lines that mean a better and a greater Hamilton. Among the important factors in the growth of this community are those concerned in the building trades and actual physical development of its expansion. One of those who has been vitally concerned in this avenue of endeavor is Frank K. Vaughn, the well-known builder and contractor. Frank K. Vaughn was born June 4, 1883, at Otsego, Mich., the son of Robert J., and Ada (Martin) Vaughn. His father was a native of Michigan of Welsh descent, his mother being of old American stock. The great grandfather of Frank K. Vaughn emigrated from Wales and became one of the early pioneers of Michigan. To Robert Vaughn and wife were born the following children: Robert J., Floyd, Charles, Deo Martin, the latter living in Michigan and the rest now residing in Oregon. Deo Martin is a veteran of the Spanish-American war. Mrs. Robert Vaughn is still living, as is also her father, who is now eighty-four years of age. Frank K. Vaughn attended a county school in District No. 9 in the township of Otsego and later attended high school of Otsego, graduating from same, subsequently attending college at Kalamazoo. He later attended Ann Arbor university, graduating from the civil engineering department, taking his college degree in this department. During his active life as an engineer he became a member of the National scientific bodies and is well-known throughout the country among the craftsmen of this line. It may be mentioned in passing that Mr. Vaughn took honors at the time of his graduation. His application as a student earned him high honors at college and served him well in the practical affairs of his later life. Mr. Vaughn entered his active career with the McClintock-Marshall company, coming to Hamilton as supervisor for this company in the erection of Niles Tool company. He remained here and on March 1, 1911, he with Webb Cullen, engaged in the contracting business. This partnership lasted until May, 1916. At this time Mr. Vaughn engaged in business as the F. K. Vaughn Building company, doing a general contracting business. Since engaging in business, he has earned a reputation second to none in this region, as a designer and builder. While in partnership with Mr. Cullen and since the formation of the latter company, there has been constructed the Y. M. C. A. building at Hamilton, also the Y. M. C. A. building at Staunton, Va., the birthplace of President Wilson, and other buildings locally and throughout the country. In May, 1919, the Vaughn company engaged in the construction of the new Ford plant at Hamilton. This

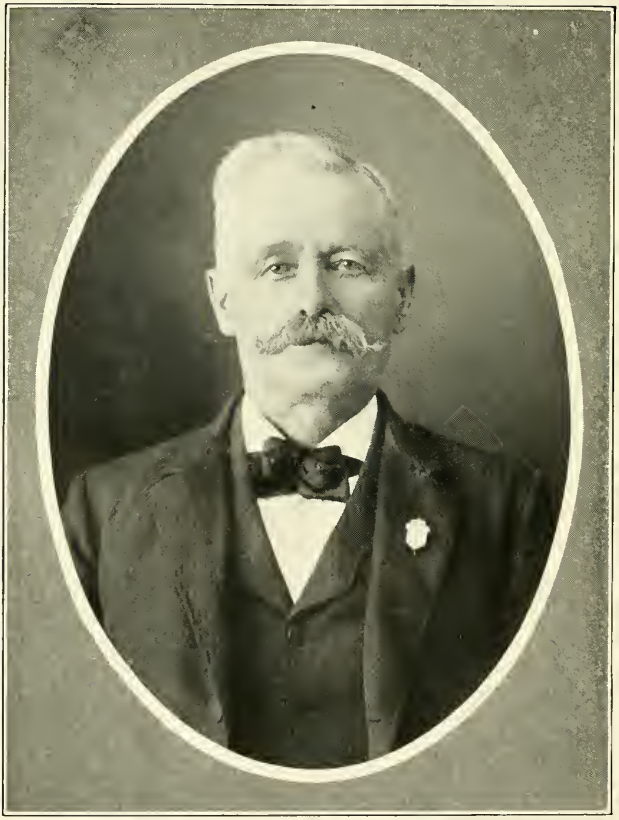
marks the beginning, of what many Hamiltonians feel, is a new epoch in the history of Hamilton. The hopes of a greater Hamilton are largely built up on the outcome of this enterprise. When these hopes become a reality, it should be a source of gratification to Mr. Vaughn to know that he was entrusted with the building of the edifice that marked the beginning of Hamilton's real greatness as a manufacturing center. Mr. Vaughn was married at Pittsburg, Pa., to Mabel E. Krauss, daughter of Otto Krauss and wife of Cleveland, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn has been born one daughter, Marion E., who is attending the local schools. Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn were active in all the various drives for the sale of war bonds and stamps, and contributed generously of their time and means for the success of all movements, attendant to the World war in this locality. In the roster of those who have in great measure given to Hamilton its present enviable reputation, and who have assured its solid growth for the future, Mr. Vaughn should be regarded as an indispensable factor, not only as a private citizen, but as a constructionist, builder of edifices and a builder of enduring character and reputation, which we venture will last as long, and longer than those institutions which his craftsmanship has wrought so well.

Edward Veidt. When he was fourteen years of age, opportunity knocked at Edward Veidt's door in the guise of a position as stock buyer. His capital was but $15.00 and his knowledge of the business had been largely gained through his association with stockmen frequenting the meat market conducted by his father, but this did not keep him from plunging enthusiastically into the work. So well has he improved his opportunities that today he is one of the prominent stockmen of the Miami valley, and his business has been developed into huge proportions. Mr. Veidt was born at Seven Mile, O., November 7, 1867, a son of John Veidt, of Baden, Germany, who died in 1913 at the age of seveny-five years. John Veidt was born March 25, 1837, and was reared by a stepfather, his own father having died when he was a babe of two months. Until he was fourteen years of age he attended school, and then learned the trade of brick layer, a vocation which he followed until coming to the United States in 1854. His first settlement was at Cincinnati, where he secured employment in a meat market, and five years later came to Butler county, and resided three years in Milford township. He then took up his residence at Seven Mile, where he continued to be engaged in the stock buying and butcher business until his demise. Mr. Veidt was married in 1859 to Miss Barbara Kern, of Germany, and they became the parents of these children: Charles, who is a merchant in Alaska; John who met an accidental death, being frozen in Alaska in 1915; Henry, who is engaged in farming in Kansas; William, a ranchman in California; George, who is a farmer and land dealer in Canada; Harry, a paper maker of Middletown, Ohio; Albert, a farmer in Madison township, Butler county; Thomas, who is deceased; Edward, who is the subject of this review; Mary, who is single and a nurse in New York city; Lulu, who lives in California; Selma, of Chicago, Ill., the wife

of N. N. White; Kate, of Rochester, N. Y., the wife of Michael Zonevally; and Lillian, who died at the age of twenty-one years. John Veidt was a Republican, a man of strong force of character and moral integrity, and a citizen who was well known and highly respected. Edward Veidt passed his boyhood days at Collinsville, O., where he attended the public schools, and began his career in connection with the stock business when he was but fourteen years of age. At that time, as before noted, his capital amounted to but $15.00, but many times that amount was represented by his enthusiasm and youthful determination. From the start he made a success of his operations, and after seven years in his home community he went to Milwaukee, Wis., where he established himself in business on a more pretentious scale. In 1891, he located at Middletown, where he was in the same business, in addition to which he worked for a time for his brother in the transfer business, in connection with a wholesale oyster firm. While in Milwaukee, he also was associated with his brother, Charles, in the butcher business. Mr. Veidt is now the owner of large farming interests and feeding grounds in West Middletown, and does an extensive business, buying his cattle in Butler and other counties. He has succeeded from the start, and a large part of the credit for his success should doubtless be given to the fact that he has always conducted his affairs in a strictly honorable and above-board manner. He is a Democrat in his political views and has always taken an interest in county affairs, although not himself an office-seeker. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church, to which Mrs. Veidt also belongs.

Reverend F. B. Veil. Of the religious denominations represented in Hamilton, the Roman Catholic church has perhaps, a greater representation than any other single denomination. Of the priests who have ministered to the faithful in Hamilton, none is better known than the beloved Father Veil of St. Peter's church. Father Veil was born in Germany, in which country he received his preliminary training in ecclesiastical duties. After his arrival in America he continued his studies at St. Francis seminary, Milwaukee, Wis. After completing his studies at this place, he supplemented this with further study at St. Mary's seminary, Cincinnati, Ohio. Subsequently, he took charge of the assistant pastorate of St. Mary's church at Marion, Ohio. He later returned to Cincinnati, becoming assistant pastor of St. Boniface church at that place. Leaving here, he became pastor of the Catholic church at Boston, Clermont county, Ohio. On September 1, 1913, he came to Hamilton, assuming the pastorate of St. Peter's church. During his pastorate of St. Peter's he has displayed a zealous interest in the care of his flock, and has discharged all his duties in a very acceptable manner. He has endeared himself to the many communicants who have come under his ministrations, and has earned a place in the affections of many others of the community, regardless of creed.

George M. Verity, president of The American Rolling Mill company of Middletown, Ohio, is man of whom, in writing of the Miami valley, it may be well said "he is a native here and to the



PETER VINSON

manner born." His birth occurred not far from the source of the Great Miami river at East Liberty, Logan county, Ohio, April 22, 1865, and he is a son of Jonathan and Mary Ann (Deaton) Verity. He acquired his early education in the common schools and in 1884 was graduated from the high school at Georgetown, this state. After a regular commercial course in the Nelson Commercial college at Cincinnati, he secured a position as bookkeeper and manager of the W. C. Standish Wholesale Grocery company of that city. In February, 1889, at the age of twenty-three, without previous knowledge of the business, he became manager of the Sagendorph Iron Roofing and Corrugating company of Cincinnati. This company manufactured sheet metal building material of all kinds, and in 1891 it was reorganized as the American Steel Roofing company of which Mr. Verity was elected vice-president and manager. He held this position until the company was absorbed by The American Rolling Mill company of Middletown, Ohio. Of this last named company he has been president and general manager since the date of organization, December 27, 1899. The rise of this company to a commanding place in the steel industry of the United States may be considered a direct result of the genius of its president for successful management in large affairs, and his ability to secure the cooperation of the many other individuals and interests necessary in its success. This company is written of more at length elsewhere in these volumes. As an evidence of the esteem in which his judgment is held among persons of high responsibility in the business world it may be noted that he is a director of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing company, Pittsburgh, Pa.; the Fifth-Third National bank, Cincinnati, Ohio; the First National bank, Middletown, Ohio; the Cincinnati Rubber Manufacturing company, Cincinnati, Ohio; and was a director of the Business Men's club, Cincinnati, from 1895 to 1898, and its president during the year 1897-98. His geniality and his social popularity are indicated by his membership in the following clubs: Dayton City club and Dayton Country club, Dayton, Ohio; Rocky Mountain club, Railroad club, and Ohio Society of New York, New York city; Duquesne club, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Chamber of Commerce, and Hamilton County Golf club, Cincinnati, Ohio; and the Annandale Golf club, Pasadena, Cal. Mr. Verity was married October 19, 1887, to Miss Jennie M. Standish of Newport, Ky., and three children have blessed their union: Calvin W. Verity, Mrs. Charles R. Hook, and Miss Sara G. Verity.

Peter Vinson. During a period of more than half a century, the late Peter Vinson was one of the honored citizens of the Miami Valley where, from humble beginnings, he worked his way to a position of substantiality and independence in his community. A man of varied abilities, his life held out to him opportunities for participation in several kinds of business, and as merchant, farmer and willow grower he met with equal success, while as a citizen he was always respected and esteemed. Mr. Vinson was born in Germany, in 1832, and at the age of twenty-two years emigrated to the United States, arriving alone at Hamilton, Ohio, August 5, 1854. He had no finances to speak of and his knowledge of the language

was indifferent, but he had the willingness to work and the ability to do things thoroughly and well, and for two years continued at Hamilton, being variously employed. Removing to Darrtown, he was married in 1856 to Catherine Schmitt, a native of Baden, Germany. For a number of years at Darrtown Mr. Vinson was a merchant and highly esteemed in business circles as a man of integrity and upright business principles, and in addition was the owner of a farm, specializing in willow-growing, his product being shipped to Milwaukee, Philadelphia, New York, New Orleans, St. Louis, Cincinnati and other points. He was a member of St. John's church of Hamilton for many years and was fraternally affiliated with the Masons and Odd Fellows at Hamilton and Oxford and the Rebekahs at Darrtown. In his death, in 1908, his community lost a valued and valuable citizen. Mrs. Vinson died in 1904. They were the parents of two children: Mary and Wilhelmina. The later, now deceased, having passed away May 5, 1891, married the late William Pfaff, and they had two children: Clement and Norma. Mary, the first child, was married March 13, 1877, to Jacob Liebrich, a tailor by trade, who came from his native Germany to the United States in 1875, and settled at Darrtown. Later he turned his attention to farming and the willow-growing business, and Mrs. Liebrich is now the owner of two fine farms in the Darrtown vicinity, of thirty-seven acres and ninety-seven acres, respectively. She is a woman of many accomplishments, and has numerous friends in the county, and is particularly active in the work of St. John's church at Hamilton, of which she has been a member for many years. She and her husband have two children: Augusta Mary, who married Otto Hirtzel of Cincinnati; and Peter W., conducting a truck farm at Darrtown, who married Myrtle Grau and has two children: Luther W. and Augusta.

Jacob Vizedom, of German parentage, was born in Hanover township, Butler county, February 6, 1853, a son of Jacob and Catherine Vizedom. His father came to America when a young man and located in Hamilton, working there as a laborer for several years. After his marriage he entered upon the occupation of farming; first as a renter, but later as a landowner, buying a farm of 160 acres in Hanover township, where he resided until the time of his death. Five children, four of whom survive him: George, William, Barbara and Jacob, the subject of this sketch, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Vizedom. Jacob received his education in Hanover township and after completing his schooling he took up farming with his father, following whose death he remained on the homestead with his mother till 1886. In that year, he married and moved to Liberty township, locating on the farm of 240 acres, which he at present rents. Mr. Vizedom also owns 171 acres in this township and is one of the most substantial and prosperous farmers to be met with anywhere in the county. By unflagging zeal and well-directed effort he has brought his farms to an exceptionally high degree of efficiency, and is valued in the community as an upright and straightforward representative of the best type of American citizenship. In 1886, he was united in marriage to Susan Ann, a daughter of George Harold, and their mar-

riage has been blessed with the following children: Anna, married George Brant and has one child, Ruth; Carl, married Charity Barnhouse and has one son, Homer; Edna and Walter both of whom are unmarried residing with their parents. Mr. Vizedom of late years has devoted considerable time and talent to the breeding of fine stock and has gained an enviable reputation locally as an exponent of this department of agriculture. He has never engaged in active politics beyond confining himself to voting for the right man to the right office. His religious affiliation is with St. John's Lutheran church.

Leonard Vogel. Undoubtedly, no other county in Ohio can boast of more successful and energetic farmers than Butler and the distinction achieved in this regard years ago is being admirably maintained. Among those worthy of special mention is Leonard Vogel, who is not only one of the most popular of the many agriculturists of this section, but he is also one of the most progressive and the good fortune that he has had with his land might well be emulated by those who would develop their efforts to the highest point of efficiency. Born in Fairfield township, Butler county, he has always been one of the most consistent advocates of the employment of modern methods in farming and is always prepared to lend his counsel in bettering the lot of other agriculturists who would develop their holdings to the greatest productivity. He is typical of those Ohio agriculturists who manifest a sincere interest in having their native state rank among the first in the matter of its crop resources and it is gratifying to note that each succeeding year since he has operated his fertile acres he has had the satisfaction of witnessing a marked increase in returns. One of eight children of Conrad and Mary Vogel was born in Fairfield township, February 12, 1864. Two of the children died, the others now living besides Leonard being John, Christopher, Conrad, Anna and Mary. His parents were both natives of Germany and came to this country when single and located in Butler county, Ohio. The father obtained employment as a farm hand and after practicing the greatest frugality rented a farm in Butler county, which he operated successfully a number of years. He later moved to South Hamilton, Ohio, where he was engaged in the liquor business for about twenty years. The parents of Mrs. Leonard Vogel were George Lintner and Anna Marie Rahmes, both natives of Germany. When a young man the father came to the United States and located in Cincinnati. He had heard much of the desirability of ownership of farm lands in Butler county and accordingly purchased a one hudred-acre tract in Fairfield township, which he operated successfully until his death, January 22, 1912. His wife died July 6, 1902. These children were born to this couple: Miss Abbie, who married George Schoenberger; Pauline, wife of Joseph Smith; Barbara, who makes her home with Leonard Vogel and wife; Margaret, wife of George Vogel; Mary, wife of Leonard Vogel; and Catharine, wife of John Smith. Leonard Vogel thus began life with the knowledge that he was of honorable ancestry, of that type of manhood and womanhood so characteristic of the early settlers of Ohio who had a genuine interest in the future

of the state and were determined to do all in their power to aid in its agricultural development. After receiving his education in the public schols of Hamilton, Ohio, he worked as a farm hand for George Lintner for twenty-six years, which is sufficient evidence of his stick-to-it-iveness. Later he acquired ownership of the Lintner farm of 100 acres in Fairfield township, which he is still operating so successfully. His wife, who was Mary Lintner, was the daughter of George and Marie Lintner. One child was born to them, Miss Elsie, who became the wife of Arthur Luechauer. One child was born to this couple, Miss Saloma.

Fred Waggoner, who is a well-known farmer and stock raiser of Union township, Butler county, has won universal esteem and marked success through the possession of energy, honesty and progressiveness. He is a native of Warren county, Ohio, born November 7, 1877, a son of Jesse and Hannah (Parker) Waggoner, also natives of that county. The father, educated in the public schools, was reared as a farmer on the farm of his father, Ventle Waggoner, who had emigrated to Warren county from that part of Virginia now included in West Virginia at an early day in the history of the Buckeye state. The family has been noted for its honorable connection with business, agriculutral and social life, and Jesse Waggoner proved no exception to the family rule, being in every way a stable and reliable citizen. He farmed as a renter throughout his life in Warren county, where he died, leaving four children: Fred, Lennie, Charles and George. Fred Waggoner was educated in the public schools of Warren county, Ohio, and Hancock county, Iowa, in which latter state his father had resided for several years during the son's boyhood. The latter remained under the parental roof until 1901, in which year he came to Union township, Butler county, and here has since been engaged in agricultural operations. At this time he rents 300 acres of fertile land, on which he carries on general farming and also raises stock, and his operations have been uniformly satisfying and successful. He raises about seventy-five head of hogs annually, for which he finds a good market, and has about fifty acres of his property in corn. A believer in modern methods, he has directed his activities intelligently, with the result that he has placed himself among the substantial agriculturists of his neighborhood. Mr. Waggoner is a Republican, and his only fraternal connection is with the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Mason, Ohio. In 1900, he was united in marriage with Elsie, daughter of Robert H. and Rachael (Wyle) McClung, and they have had five children: Ethel, Robert, Willard, Elma and Millard, the last two of whom are deceased.

Albert P. Wagner. Found prominently among the old and honored business houses of Hamilton which can boast of clean and commendable records of more than twenty years, is that of Albert P. Wagner, than which funeral directing business none can be said to have in greater degree the confidence of the general public. Albert P. Wagner was born at Hamilton, Ohio, October 22, 1865, a son of John and Sophia (Straub) Wagner, and a grandson of George Adam and Margaret Wagner, who came to the United States when past

middle age, after the advent here of their son, and rounded out long and usful lives in the land of their adoption. John Wagner was born in 1836, at Berglundstadt, Bavaria, Germany, and was twenty years of age when he emigrated to America. Locating at Hamilton, he established himself in business as a shoemaker, a trade which he had learned in his native land, on High street, opposite the court house, and prospered exceedingly, a fact which led him to engage in other ventures. With his brother Adam he bought the old Washington brewery, but in this enterprise was not fortunate, suffering heavy losses, and eventually went back to the shoe business, at 808 Central avenue, an establishment which he conducted until his death in 1892. Mr. Wagner was united in marriage with Sophia Straub, born and raised in St. Clair township, Butler county, who died in 1885, a daughter of Thaddeus and Priska Straub, natives of Wittenberg, Germany, and early setlers of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner were faithful members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church and the parents of ten children: Albert P., of this notice; Frank J., a moulder of Lindenwald, Ohio; Mary L., the wife of Andrew Goetz, of Dayton; Anna J., wife of Oscar De Ryan of Dayton; and Edward G., of Dayton; the others being deceased. John R., a plumber, was accidentally killed by a Pennsylvania railroad train, June 13, 1916, leaving a widow, who had been Ora K. Wittman, and two daughters, Alberta and Jeannette. Albert P. Wagner was educated in the public and parochial schools and started to learn the machinist's trade at the age of fifteen years. His first employment was at the Niles Tool works, and subsequently he went to St. Louis, where he was employed at his trade, that of machinist, for two years, and in 1898 he went to Kansas City, Mo., where he entered the undertaking establishment of his cousin, John W. Wagner, and eventually decided upon entering that profession. On December 1st of that year he returned to his home at Hamilton, where he embarked in business on his own account at 124 Ludlow street. After two years he removed to more commodious and better equipped quarters at 337 Ludlow street, where he has complete equipment of every kind for the proper and reverent care of the dead. Mr. Wagner was married in October, 1903, to Minnie Gressle, of Hamilton, a daughter of John and Mary Gressle, the former of whom was a foreman in the Long & Allstatter Pattern works at Hamilton. Mr. Gressle died in October, 1908, and his widow in December, 1913, she being a member of the Catholic faith. Mr. Wagner is a member of the Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Loyal Order of Moose, of which he was the first dictator and a continuously active member towards its success, the Knights of Columbus, the Monkey Mutual Aid, the West Side Aid society, the Walnut Aid society, the Tribe of Ben Hur, the Degree of Honor and St. George Benevolent society, and he and Mrs. Wagner are members of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church. Mr. Wagner possesses a tenor voice of power, quality and purity, and has frequently appeared in public as a soloist, particularly in church entertainments. His tendencies make him a Democrat, although he is not a politician. A man of genial nature, he is easy of approach and is the possessor

of many warm friends throughout Hamilton and in Butler county.

John L. Wagner. A lifelong resident of Butler county, John L. Wagner has contributed to the progress of his home community through the development of the old homestead farm in Madison township, as well as by active participation in township affairs. He was born on the farm which he now owns and occupies, on section 34, Brown's Run, and is a son of Lewis and Harriet (Gephart) Wagner. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Wagner was Peter Gephart, of Pennsylvania, who migrated early to Butler county and settled on Brown's Run, Madison township, where he cleared a farm and made a home. He was one of the prominent characters of his day, and lived to the advanced age of eighty-two years, his wife, who had been a Miss Gephart, also living to an old age. The paternal grandfather of Mr. Wagner was Christopher Wagner, a native of Germany, who passed his life in that country. Lewis Wagner, father of John L., was also born in Germany, but left that country in young manhood, emigrating to the United States. While he was a man of marked inherent talents and a linguist who could speak seven languages, he was only a poor youth when he arrived in this country, and was forced to take what honorable employment presented itself. Locating at Hamilton, he began work in a foundry, where his industry and fidelity earned his promotion and advancement in wages, the latter of which, being thrifty, he saved and wisely invested. When the opportunity came, during the Civil war, he bought a hotel at Middletown, which he conducted for several years, and then bought a farm of 160 acres, located in Madison township, Butler county. At that time there was only a little clearing made, on which stood a small house and several little outbuildings, but within a few years after his settlement this property was well cleared and cultivated and boasted of a good set of buildings. Mr. Wagner became well and favorably known as a man of ability, integrity and public spirit, assisted in civic affairs, and served for a number of years as school director and in other minor offices. He was a Democrat in his political affiliation and a member of the Baptist church, in the faith of which he died in 1903, aged eighty-three years, while his wife passed away in the Methodist faith, in 1901, when sixty-eight years of age. They were the parents of six children, four of whom are living: John L.; Ed, for thirty-four years an engineer on the Clover Leaf railroad, out of Toledo; Mary, the wife of Samuel Hurst; Lizzie, the wife of John Kemp; Peter, who died in 1900, at the age of forty years; and William, who passed away when thirty-five years of age. John L. Wagner was brought up to habits of industry and thoroughness and was given a public school education in Madison township. He remained on the homestead, and in 1893 was united in marriage with Eva M. Joy, of Frederick county, Md., a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Routson) Joy, natives of Maryland, who came to Ohio in 1880 and located at Franklin. Mr. Joy worked on the railroad and also farmed in Warren county, and for the past twenty years has followed the trade of carpenter at Miamisburg, where Mrs. Joy died in 1893. They were the parents of six children: Mrs. Wagner; Oscar and Spender, residents of Miamisburg; Harry, who

H. H. WAGONFIELD

MRS. H. H. WAGONFIELD

is deceased; Mary, of Ellerton, O.; and Mamie, of Dayton. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner have four children: Edna, Ida, Alma and Clarence. Mr. Wagner has always been a farmer. After purchasing the old home place he built or remodeled all the buildings and has made many valuable improvements, all of which have enhanced both the value and the attracticeness of the property. He now has 158 acres, with 100 acres of plow land, and carries on general farming, raising wheat, corn, hay and tobacco, and breeding all kinds of live stock. He has proven himself a skilled and well informed agriculturist and a man of strict business integrity. Mr. Wagner is one whose progressive spirit is a valuable asset to his community, and in addition to taking keen and helpful interest in township affairs he has served for a number of years as a member of the school board of directors. He and the members of his family belong to the Reformed church.

Herman H. Wagonfield. While the influence a man exerts in developing his community may not depend upon the length of time that he has spent therein as much as upon the quality of his service, naturally those who have spent longer years in a certain community have been able to contribute in greater degree than the more recent arrivals. Herman H. Wagonfield has indelibly inscribed his name among those who have been identified with the progress of Hanover township in an agricultural way during its greatest period of development, and at this time is the owner of a valuable and well-developed property of 135 acres. Mr. Wagonfield was born at Monroe, Butler county, Ohio, August 21, 1871, a son of Gottlieb and Mary (Silvers) Wagonfield, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Butler county. The father was a young man when he emigrated to the United States, and took up his residence in Butler county, where he met and married Mrs. Mary (Silvers) Moore, widow of Thomas Moore, who had two children, Leander and Anderson, by her first marriage, both of these children now being deceased. After their marriage they located on a farm in Milford township, where they passed the remaining years of their lives, the father dying about 1906 and the mother passing away in 1897. They were the parents of three children: Charles F., who resides near Darrtown; William, who lives with his brother Herman; and Herman H. Herman H. Wagonfield was educated in the public schools of Darrtown, after leaving which he began to work for his father. He so continued until his marriage to Sarah Jane, daughter of George Bauman, whose other children were: Ella; Kate; Cora, deceased; Frank; George; and Clement, deceased. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wagonfield moved to a farm in Hanover township, a property which Mr. Wagonfield rented for some years. In 1914, he changed his location to his present farm, which he purchased, a tract of 135 acres of fertile and productive land, where he has since been successfully engaged in general farming operations. His land is made more attractive and valuable by the modern improvements thereon, which include a handsome residence, commodious barns and substantial outbuildings, and the equipment is up-to-date throughout, including a complete Delco lighting system. Mr. Wagonfield is a practical farmer, who uses modern methods with intelligence and discretion,

and who has an excellent reputation for integrity and good citizenship in his community. He and the members of his family were very active in all war activities during the recent great struggle, and in numerous ways he has evidenced his desire to be of benefit to his community. He is a Democrat in politics, and has served as a member of the board of trustees of Hanover township. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wagonfield: Mary, who married Martin Petry, of Oxford, and has one child, Wilma; and Myrtle, Howard, Herman G. and an infant, who reside with their parents.

Miss Anna Walter. Since the beginning of its connection with Butler county, the Walter family has been one which has added strength and solidity to the industries and institutions of this part of the Miami valley, its members having been people of industry, integrity and probity whose activities have been for the greater part confined to the arts of agriculture. A worthy representative of this old and honored name is found in Miss Anna Walter, who owns and conducts a valuable warm, the old home place in the vicinity of Jacksonboro, where she has passed her entire life. She was born on this farm, a daughter of John J. and Eleanor (Van Kirk) Walter, natives of Monmouth county, N. J., who came to Ohio at an early day, as young married people and took up their residence on what later came to be known as the Walter homestead. People of the highest ideals and of Christian character, they secured and held the unqualified respect and confidence of the people of the community, and when they passed away left many to mourn their loss. They were the parents of five children: Sarah, who became the wife of Henry Weaser and is now deceased; Garrett, who died when twenty-one months old; Miss Anna, of this notice; Nora, who became the wife of William Yager and is now deceased; and Schenck, deceased. Miss Anna Walter was given a public school education and in girlhood and young womanhood was carefully trained by her watchful and devoted mother in all the arts of domestic science. She proved a most dutiful and affectionate daughter to her parents, with whom she always remained, caring for their every want and nursing them devotedly during the period of their last illness. When her parents died her brother, Schenck Walter, took over the management of the home place, and when he, in turn, died, Miss Walter assumed control and has since conducted the property in a highly successful and profitable manner. As an assistant she has a capable and highly skilled farmer, John Allen Meredith, a member of a fine old family of the Miami valley, the Meredith having been pioneers of this region. Five uncles of Mr. Meredith fought as soldiers during the Civil war for the Union, and those bearing the name have always been upright and reliable citizens. Mr. Meredith is a self-educated man and one of intelligence, who has always taken an interest in the important and worthwhile questions of the day. He is a Republican in politics, and on a number of occasions has been chosen as judge of election. The Walter farm consists of 129 acres and is a well-cultivated and highly improved farm, where Miss Walter specializes in the raising of fine Jersey cattle. These animals

RESIDENCE OF P. K. WALTER, WEST MIDDLETOWN, O.

are well known throughout this section as being of a superior breed, and at the Greenville creamery, January 29, 1914, were awarded first prize. Miss Walter has been active in the movements of the Presbyterian church, of which she has been a lifelong member, and has also interested herself in other matters which have pertained to the welfare of the community as to its morals, religion and education. During her long residence here she has formed a wide acquaintance and her friends are numerous.

Peter K. Walter. One of the old and honored farmers of the Miami valley, Peter K. Walter, at the age of seventy years, is still actively engaged in carrying on operations on his fine property located in section 7, Madison township. Mr. Walter was born in a home on Main street, Middletown, Ohio, November 28, 1849, a son of William R. and Julia Ann (Van Kirk) Walter, natives of New Jersey. The parents were a young married couple when they first came to Butler county, and here settled at what was known as Jacktown, in Madison township, where the father established a small blacksmith shop. His skill and honesty soon won him public confidence and patronage and his business grew rapidly to large proportions, so that he established another shop at Middletown, and in all ran five fires, which was considered a large number for the time and locality. He shod all the horses for miles around, in addition to doing repair work on wagons and general blacksmith jobs, and formed a wide acquaintance. However, it had been his ambition to be a farmer, and in his later years he moved to Illinois, where he spent his last days in tilling the soil. His first wife died on the Illinois farm, leaving three children: Peter K.; Nathan S., who died in young manhood; and Weller, a woodworker who went to Decatur, Ill. Mr. Walter's second marriage was to Hannah Simms, who also died in Illinois, and they had three children: Benjamin, deceased; and William and Charley, who live in Decatur, Ill. Peter K. Walter received his education in the home schools of Butler county and grew up in this locality, where he assisted his father in the blacksmith shop and also worked on farms. When his parents went to Illinois he accompanied them, but in 1881 returned to Butler county, where he again became connected with agriculture. He was married March 12, 1884, to Miss Jennie Stover, of Middletown, a daughter of William and Nancy Ann (Orr) Stover, natives of this state who lived for the most part at Middletown, where Mr. Stover was variously employed. His death occurred there October 25, 1895, while Mrs. Stover still survives. There were two children in the Stover family: Mrs. Walter; and Laura, who married Jacob Shartle, of Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Walter are the parents of five children: William S., a farmer of Montgomery county, who married Nellie Cooper; Charles E., operating his father's farm, married Clara Brelsfoard, and has one daughter, Muryl; Emma A., who married Lurton Roberts, a farmer, and has one daughter, Mabel; Clara V., who married Charles Brooks and has three daughters: Ruth, Jane and Julia Ann; and Ralph B., a farmer at home, who married Lucile Banker and has one son, Richard Eugene. After his marriage Mr. Walter located on the farm which he now oc-

cupies and which is known as the old Garrett Schenck property, situated four miles west of Middletown, on section 7, Madison township. He has remodeled the brick house and added to it, as well as having made additions to the barn and installed numerous valuable improvements of different kinds. His is a fine home, and his 178-acre property is a model one, producing large crops of wheat, oats, corn and hay. He has mixed stock in horses and cattle, and under his capable direction and skilled management, all of the departments of the place are proving successful. It has always been his aim to farm in a modern way and to make the most of the improvements which are constantly elevating the vocation of farming into a science and which are bringing due recognition of the importance of the industry. Mr. Walter has been content to be a farmer and has never asked for public office nor cared therefor. He is a Democratic voter, and in that his activities in political and public life cease.

Charles H. Walther is numbered among the substantial representative farmers of Fairfield township, Butler county, where he is the owner of the old Groh farm of eighty acres, this being one of the well improved and specially attractive farm properties of the county. Mr. Walther knows at first hand the requirements for successful farm enterprise in Butler county, for he is a native of the county and here gained his initial experience in agricultural industry, on the old home farm of his father. He was born in Morgan township, February 7, 1884, and is a son of John B. and Emily (Hauser) Walther, concerning whom adequate mention is made on other pages, in the sketch of John B. Walther, jr. He whose name introduces this paragraph acquired his early education in the public schools. at Shandon, and thereafter he found employment at farm work. On the 7th of October, 1911, was solemnized his marriage to Elizabeth Raithel, the elder of the two children of Christian and Anna (Hoffman) Raithel, of Ross township, where the father has long been a prosperous farmer. The younger of the Raithel children is John, who still remains at the parental home, where he is his father's associate in the work and management of the farm. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Walther established their home on their present farm, and here he has since conducted successful operations in well diversified agriculture and the raising of excellent types of live stock. Mr. and Mrs. Walther have three children: Stanley, Carl and Delmar; and also have a host of loyal friends in their native county. He is a Republican in politics and he and his wife are active members of the United Brethren church. During the World war they gave loyal support to the government's civil agencies for preparation for and upholding war activities, as well as the work of the Red Cross and other organizations whose services were of inestimable value during the critical war period. Fraternally Mr. Walther affiliates with the Hamilton lodge of Odd Fellows.

John B. Walther, jr. Fifty-one years of age and a native son of Ross township, Butler county, where he was born October 12, 1868, is an earnest and high-minded agriculturist and a sincere appreciator of the dignity and worth of his calling. John B. Walther the elder, the father of Mr. Walther, was born in Germany and as a young

man came to the United States and took up his residence at Cincinnati, where he met and married Emma Hauser, who was born in Switzerland and was two years of age when brought to America by her parents, the latter of whom subsequently settled at White Oak, where she died. The parents of Mr. Walther located at Venice, where the father conducted a meat market for many years, but later retired to a farm near Shandon, where he now resides. Mrs. Walther died in 1911. They were the parents of these children: George, John B., Fred, Marshall, Charles, Lydia, Anna and Carrie. John B. Walther, jr., attended the common schools, and when he had completed his education began working as a farmhand by the month. He was married in 1897 to Sophia Delker, daughter of Jacob Delker, of Morgan township, Butler county, and following their union they moved to Cincinnati, where Mr. Walther was employed by the United States Express company for two and one-half years. Returning to farming at the end of that time, they located in Ross township, where Mr. Walther purchased his present tract, a property of 104 acres in 1914. This was formerly known as the old Belcher place, and is located two miles west of Venice on the Colerain township line. Mr. Walther has made this a modern farm with up-to-date improvements of all kinds, including a Delco lighting system throughout, and the improvements include also a commodious dwelling, large and well-arranged barns and out-buildings, well-kept fences and many carefully selected labor-saving devices. In his political belief Mr. Walther is a staunch Republican and his religious faith is that of the United Brethren church, to which also belong his wife and children. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. During the period of the war he subscribed generously to all war activities. Mr. and Mrs. Walther have the following children: Edna, a high school graduate who is now in her third year at Oxford college; Clayton, who is assisting his father in the work of the home farm; and Florence, Irene and Ada, who are all attending the high school at Venice.

Rev. Geo. C. Warvel, deceased, of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, should be an inspiration to the young man reared on a farm who has not the prospects of a university education, but who is overflowing with ambition to enter one of the professions. The Rev. Warvel was at once a preacher and an agriculturist and it is interesting to note that he was a success in both callings and those familiar with the later history of Ross township can testify to the zeal and sterling traits of character of this man. He owes much to the fact that his progenitors were of the sturdy type that combines spiritual devotion with conscientious mundane labor. Born near Lebanon, Ohio, he was one of seven children of John Christopher and Lillie Warvel, the father having been a native of Rockingham county, Va., and his wife was born in Germany. The couple were married in Virginia and came by wagon to Warren county, Ohio, settling on the place where George C. was born. They later moved to Darke county, Ohio, where Mr. Warvel purchased a farm and operated it successfully until his death. Their children, besides George C., were:

John, deceased, who was a farmer and county commissioner of Darke county, Ohio; William, a farmer, who also lived in Darke county; Daniel, a Darke county farmer; Mary, who became the wife of Daniel Hartswell of Darke county; Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Beam of Darke county, and Margaret, who is also married. The early education of George C. Warvel was limited and as he was ambitious and of studious inclination, he developed into an omnivorous reader and became familiar with the standard works of literature. He prepared himself sufficiently to be received into the ministry of the United Brethren church and was a successful preacher for forty years. During this long period he labored faithfully and assiduously among his flock and was beloved by all as a man of high intellectual attainments and noble traits of character. He married Margaret Ellen Oliver of Darke county, who was the widow of William Johns and the mother of one child. He married a second time, Elizabeth Anna Pottinger, widow of Robert A. Wheat, and daughter of John and Sarah Pottinger of Hamilton, Ohio. After their marriage the Rev. Warvel and wife went to housekeeping at Mt. Healthy, Ohio, and later moved to Darke county, Ohio, where the couple lived on a farm for a time, later moving to a farm near Miltonville, Ohio. He was commissioned a captain in the Civil war and chaplain. He was in Co. E., 167th Regiment in the One Hundred-Day service. In the spring of 1877 he came to Ross township and bought the 100 acre farm which his son and daughter are now occupying. He passed away here at the age of seventy-seven years, while his wife died in 1899 at the age of seventy-three years. Rev. Warvel had five children by his second wife, two of whom are living: Orien Clayton, who was born in Darke county, Ohio, and Lizzie May, born in Miltonville, Ohio, January 2, 1862. The children were educated in the home schools and always lived with the parents. They still own the old farm and are carrying on general farming, raising small fruit and vegetables which they market at Hamilton as well as operating a dairy in all of which they have been very successful.

Joseph Clark Weamer. During the past eight years Joseph Clark Weamer has made his home at Middletown, where he has been identified as an employee of the American Rolling mills. Mr. Weamer was born in Indiana county, Pa., a son of Joseph Clark and Clarissa (Hopkins) Weamer, and a member of a pioneer family of Indiana county, where his grandparents Jacob and Margaret (Roof) Weamer, were early settlers. Joseph Clark Weamer the elder fought as a soldier of the Union army during the Civil war, fighting with a Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and four of his brothers were also in the service: George, who met a soldier's death in battle; and William, Andrew and Silas, all still residents of the Keystone state. One of Mr. Weamer's sisters, Margaret, is now Mrs. James Craig and resides at Peoria, Ill. On the maternal side, Mr. Weamer has one uncle and three aunts: Russell Hopkins, of California; Mary, Mrs. Robert Bruce; Belle, Mrs. Frank Smith, of Indiana; and Jeanette, Mrs. Ed. Cotterman, of Pennsylvania. Joseph Clark Weamer of this review was educated in the public schools of Indiana county, Pa., where his father was engaged in agricultural

pursuits, and as a youth turned his attention to the steel industry, the means by which he could attain his ambitions, and after serving his apprenticeship and working for a time as a journeyman went to Blasdell, N. Y., where he secured employment in large mills. From that place he came to Middletown, Ohio, in 1911 and immediately became identified with the American Rolling mills, where he has since been employed. He has won several promotions and has merited the confidence that has been placed in him. Politically he is a Republican, and his fraternal affiliation is with the Masons, while he and Mrs. Weamer are consistent members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Weamer was married in Indiana county, Pa., to Miss Mollie Klingensmith, daughter of Lewis and Emma (Gibson) Klingensmith, and granddaughter of Peter and Mary (Shoop) Klingensmith. Her maternal grandparents were James and Sarah Gibson, whose ancestors were pioneers in the steel and iron industry in Pennsylvania and people of wealth and influence in their day. Mrs. Weamer had three sisters and three brothers: Ada, Mrs. B. E. Goldstron, of Pennsylvania; Lula and Ruth, of Etna, Pa.; George and Harland, also of that place; and John, of Middletown. Mr. and Mrs. Weamer are the parents of one son, Lewis Clark, a bright and interesting boy. Mrs. Weamer has been very active in church work and social circles and at present is worthy matron of the Middletown Eastern Star chapter. The pleasant and attractive Weamer home is located at No. 210 S. Monroe street.

Henry W. Wear, former saw mill operator, and known as an expert thresher of grain, and now retired, is a son of Nathan and Susan (Majors) Wear. He was born in Morgan township, Butler county, July 8, 1845. His parents were natives of Morgan township, Ohio, and after marriage, settled on a farm two miles north of Okeana, Ohio. During their lives were residents of different places in Ohio, but passed away in Okeana. The father was a farmer by occupation, and in politics a Democrat. He and wife were members of the Methodist church. Their union was blessed by ten children, six of whom are now living. Three of their sons had in all thirty children. Those living today are: Thomas, of Hamilton, Ohio; Eliza, of Hamilton; James, who lives in Indiana; Lou McLain, now a widow, lives in Okeana; Emerine, of California, and Henry W. Wear. Mr. Wear was afforded a limited amount of schooling in the old log schoolhouse near his father's farm. He lived at home until the time of his first marriage, which was to Sarah Ann Bowles, of Morgan township, a member of the Methodist church. Some time after her death, Mr. Wear married Martha McLane, of Okeana, a member of the Christian church. Death visited his home again, and took from him his second wife. He survives several children who passed away a number of years ago. During his life he has been an able farmer, operating his own farm at times, and for two years assisting J. Davis, of Morgan township, and later, for four years, George Smith. For many years he successfully operated a sawmill. Since 1904, he has lived retired in Okeana. In politics, Mr. Wear has always been a staunch member of the Democratic party.

H. J. Weaver. Few indeed are the families of Butler county

whose connection with this locality antedates that of Weaver, for the founder here arrived during pioneer days when there was scarcely any settlement, although the country was capable of the development which is so characteristic of the territory included in the Miami valley. Establishing his home within the county's borders he became one of those who laid the foundations for development, and succeeding generations bearing the name have carried on the work which he started. A worthy representative of this family today is H. J. Weaver, a successful agriculturist and poultryman of Reily township, who was born in this township June 4, 1878, a son of John and Adeline (Wilkinson) Weaver, natives of Butler county. On the paternal side he is descended from a pioneer settler from Pennsylvania, while the Wilkinsons originated in New Jersey and were also early farming people of the Valley of the Miami. John and Adeline Weaver were lifelong residents of Butler county and rounded out their useful and honorable lives on the farm on which their son now makes his home. They had two children: W. H., who is single and a Butler county farmer; and Harvey J., of this notice. Harvey J. Weaver received his education in the public schools of his native township and spent his boyhood and youth in much the same manner as other farmers' sons of his day and locality. He was married in 1900 to Charlotte, daughter of Conrad and Catherine (Urban) Wunder. Conrad Wunder was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 26, 1852, a son of Paul and Anna (Hoffman) Wunder, natives of Germany and later settlers of Hamilton, Ohio, and Catherine was the daughter of Philip Urban, of Reily township. After his marriage Mr. Weaver came to his present farm of 163 acres, where he has since carried on enterprising and extensive operations, finding success in both farming of a general character and in the raising of chickens and other poultry for the market. He is a good business man whose standing upon the question of integrity is high and who has formed numerous connections of a satisfactory character with his associates, who have placed the most implicit faith in him. In politics he is a Democrat, and has filled the office of trustee of Reily township for four years, also takes an active interest in events, and is a supporter of worthy movements whether in times of war or peace. He and his wife are the parents of two children: Paul, born in 1901, who is attending Miami university; and Helene, born in 1902, a graduate of the local high school.

Martin Weaver. At the time of his death, in 1919, the late Martin Weaver was one of the oldest residents of Wayne township. For many years he had been known as one of the progressive and successful agriculturists of his locality, and the old Weaver farm, upon which had resided members of the Weaver family for several generations, was considered one of the most valuable in the township. A man of generous impulses and good citizenship, he was considered a substantial citizen of his community, where there remain many to mourn his loss. Mr. Weaver was born in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of John W. and Esther (Clark) Weaver, the former of Shamokin, Pa., born September 13, 1799, and the latter of New Jersey, born September 8, 1805. They were mar-

ried October 14, 1824, and became the parents of the following children: Jacob, who is deceased; Sarah Jane, who became the wife of Andrew Cunningham; Wolverton, deceased; Martha Ann, deceased; John F.; Martin; Catherine B.; Mollie; and Thomas, who died in infancy. Throughout his life, Martin Weaver was a farmer in Wayne township, on his well-cultivated tract near Jacksonboro, and there his death occurred in March, 1919, when he was seventy-nine years of age, his funeral being conducted by Jefferson lodge, No. 90, F. & A. M., and Hope lodge No. 40, I. O. O. F., of which he had been a member for many years. Interment was made at Jacksonboro. Mr. Weaver had been married twice and was the father of four children: Flora, who became Mrs. Walter Campbell; and Fred, Charles and James, of Butler county. Fred Weaver enlisted in the army and March 2, 1916, left for France, serving until the signing of the armistice, following which he received his honorable discharge.

David Webb. During the fifteen years of its existence the house of David Webb, funeral director, has become firmly established in public confidence. This favorable condition has been brought about through the following out of a policy of honorable dealing, together with the use of the extraordinary tact which the successful conduct of such a business demands. The head of this establishment, David Webb, is a Hamiltonian by birth, having been born in the First Ward, July 6, 1871. His parents were Foster and Margaret Webb, the former born in Adams county, O., and the latter in Germany, and both are now deceased. The father fought as a soldier during the Civil war, being a member of the 35th Regiment, O. V. I., with which he served for three years, during which time he suffered considerably from sickness. With a good war record he located in Hamilton, where he established himself in a transfer and livery business, in which he won success and made himself known as a man of business honor and public-spirited citizenship. Late in life he retired from active pursuits, and went to live at a country place in Lincoln county, Ky., where his death occurred, his wife having passed away previously at Hamilton. Mr. Webb was a member of the G. A. R. and of Uniform Rank I. O. O. F. He and Mrs. Webb were consistent members of the Baptist church. Their children were as follows: Walter, who was formerly in the livery business, but now identified with the woolen business at Hamilton; David, Hattie, the wife of James Carson of Hamilton; Florence, the wife of Harry Dubbs of Dayton; Lizzie, the wife of John Wittman of Dayton; and Ida, who is single and also resides at that city. David Webb received his education in the home schools of Hamilton and his introduction to business matters came in his father's livery. He was associated with his father for some years, as well as his brother, and had a prosperous and thriving business, but gradually turned his attention toward funeral directing. About 1904, he established himself in business, and since that time has been one of the leaders in his line, his establishment growing in size and equipment as he has gained more and more the respect and confidence of the people of Hamilton. He now has the finest of funeral equipments to be

found anywhere, including a six-Sedan Reo automobile, an elegant black Reo funeral car and a combination ambulance, also a Reo, and his accommodations in other ways are modern in every respect, enabling him to give the best of reverent attention to preparing his subjects for conveyance to their last resting place. Mr. Webb has become well known in Butler county, where his business integrity has assisted him in forming strong ties of friendship. His fraternal connections, which are numerous, include membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Friendship Aid association, the Miami Aid society, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Maccabees. With his family, he belongs to the First Baptist church of Hamilton. Mr. Webb was married in 1901 to Miss Alta Keltner, who was born east of Hamilton, O., a daughter of A. W. and Clara (Scudder) Keltner, farming people of Butler county. There were three children in the Keltner family: Ed and Delbert, who are residents of Mason, O.; and Mrs. Webb. Mr. and Mrs. Webb are the parents of three sons: Howard, Gordon and Herbert.

LeRoy Webber, one of the local preachers of the United Brethren church, and a farmer of more than usual ability, is widely known and universally liked for his many excellent traits of character. He was born in Madison township, March 29, 1864, a son of John Webber, and a grandson of Abraham Webber, the founder of the family in Butler county. Abraham Webber was born in Pennsylvania, but looking for a wider field of endeavor, he left his native state, and faring forth made a new home in Madison township, being one of its early settlers. There he died in 1864. His children were as follows: John, who became the father of LeRoy Webber; Christian, who was a farmer of Madison township; Peter, who was also a farmer of Madison township; and Sarah and Mollie, both of whom died in childhood. John Webber was born in Madison township, where he was reared, his educational advantages being those afforded by the somewhat primitive schools of his day and locality. He was married to Mary Kelly of Kenton, O., a daughter of James Kelly, who later moved to Montgomery county, O., and still later to the vicinity of Middletown, O. During the War of 1812, James Kelly served as a soldier in defense of his country. The children born to James Kelly and his wife were as follows: Enoch; Levi, who died as a soldier during the Civil war; Joseph; William; Mary; Rebecca; Nancy, and Sarah. John Webber and his wife became the parents of the following children: William, who is a resident of Darke county, O.; Norah, who is engaged in teaching in Darke county, O.; LeRoy, whose name heads this review; Jane, who married William Piercy, lives in the vicinity of Albany, Ind.; Ann, who married William Langdon, a conductor on the Big Four railroad, lives at Cleveland, O.; Peter, who was an educator, is deceased; John, who was a soldier in the regular army for twelve years, died in Colorado; and James, who was killed in a runaway accident in Missouri. In February, 1909, John Webber passed away, his widow surviving him until 1912. Both were most excellent people, kindly and charitable, and beloved by a wide circle of warm, personal

JAMES R. WEBSTER

friends. They were very active in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church, and died firm in its faith. The principles of the Democratic party found in John Webber a strong advocate, and he voted for its candidates at every election. LeRoy Webber was reared in a Christian home, taught farming under his father's careful supervision, and sent to the local schools. Naturally studious, he turned toward the educational field as a means of finding expression for his forces, and taught the No. 1 school in Madison township, but was not satisfied with the opportunities thus offered, and so began studying for the ministry. For three years he had charge of the church of the United Brethren at Harrison, O., whence he was sent to Rockdale, O., and has always continued very active in church work, being now a member of the Brown's Run United Brethren church, of which he is a local preacher, and he is oftentimes called upon to fill vacancies in other churches. In 1888, Mr. Webber was recalled to the homestead, his father having suffered from a stroke of apoplexy, and took charge of it, conducting it for his parents until his father's death. He then bought out the other heirs, and now has ninety-two acres of very choice land all in one body, on which he is carrying on general farming. March 2, 1887, Mr. Webber was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Barr, born at Cincinnati, O., her parents being natives of Deadham, Mass., and Cincinnati, O., respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Webber have the following children: Lorain, who is at home, has been engaged in teaching school for the past five years, and is a graduate of the high shcools of Middletown and Oxford, O.; Mary, who married Stanley Powell of Hartville, O., a son of Prof. Austin Powell, superintendent of the Hartwell schools, is a draftsman and electrician for the United States government; Clara, who married Earl Brown, a farmer of Madison township; and Ruth, who is at home. Like his father, Mr. Webber is a Democrat, but aside from his interest in school matters, which induced him to serve as a director for twelve years, and truant officer, he has not entered public life. His practical knowledge of life and the needs of his associates, make him a powerful preacher, and when he occupies the pulpit, his congregations are mightily stirred by his words of exhortation. His discourses are all the more effective because his hearers know that he carries into his everyday life the creed he preaches, and that he asks of no man more than he is ready and willing to give himself.

James R. Webster. Among the citizens of Hamilton who have contributed to the material progress and advancement of this locality, few can lay claim to greater or more helpful achievements than can James R. Webster. Mr. Webster, now living in retirement, was during his active years a leading factor in real estate circles and his accomplishments in that direction served to increase the size of the city, the volume of its population and the importance of its business industries and institutions. At various times he was identified with pretentious business enterprises which benefited greatly by his abilities and through his public spirit and good citizenship he assisted in the success of movements which made for

civic betterment. Mr. Webster is a native of Hamilton, having been born on the present site of the Red Trunk store, February 8, 1843. His grandfather was William Webster, who married Mary Marsh of New Jersey, and they moved with their parents to Pennsylvania, coming to Ohio in 1806. On their arrival in this state they settled in Liberty township, Butler county, ten miles east of Hamilton, on a farm now owned by their grandson, Joseph H. Webster. William Webster had come to this locality in 1804 and secured a tract of 202 acres of good land, on which there had been made a ten-acre clearing, with a small log cabin and stable. In 1806 he drove through in a wagon from Pennsylvania with his wife, and not long thereafter commenced the erection of a frame house, one of the first in the locality. In addition to farming, he was the proprietor of a tannery on his property, owned a good deal of livestock, and was also the owner of land in Indiana, so that, for his time, he was considered a very successful man. He gave his children good educational advantages, several going to college, and his eldest son, Taylor, served in Congress for three terms. He and his wife were Quakers and belonged to the Quaker meeting at Waynesville and Springboro. Mr. Webster died at the age of seventy-six years, while his widow passed away at the age of eighty-five. Their children were as follows: Taylor, of whom more later; John, who married Abigail Perry, deceased. He was again united in marriage with Mrs. Ellinore McClellan, and after his father's death secured the old home place and farmed it until his death; Elias, who was a farmer and doctor of Butler county, married Mary Cain; Hugh, who died young; Randolph, who also died in his youth; William, who was engaged in the grocery business with his brother Joseph S. M. at Hamilton, and later went to Middletown, where he died in 1889; and Joseph S. M. Taylor Webster, eldest son of William Webster, was a successful business man who built two flour mills, which he operated and became a prominent figure in public life. He was clerk of the Butler county court for seven years, and was then sent to Congress, where his three terms were made conspicuous by brilliant and constructive work. His only son, Daniel, moved to New Orleans, La., in 1858, and became connected with R. G. Dun & Co. to his death in 1876, and during this time assisted in publishing the Traders Journal for his firm. He also engaged in raising cotton near New Orleans in 1864, 1865 and 1866, at which time his cousin, James R., was in partnership with him. They had 500 acres of cotton, at a time when it was selling for thirty-five cents a pound, but lost all save fifty acres through an overflow of the Mississippi river. Mr. Webster was one of the very successful men of his day. He married May DeCamp. Joseph S. M. Webster, father of James R. Webster, was born on the old home place in 1819 and educated in the public schools. In 1836 he located at Hamilton, where he entered the grocery business with his brother William, on High street, but the partnership was dissolved in 1841 and Mr. Webster continued in business alone until 1849. He then opened a photograph gallery, which he conducted for seventeen years, and eventually embarked

in the real estate business, with which he was identified until his death in 1889. Mr. Webster married Letitia Elizabeth, daughter of James and Rebecca Reed, of New Jersey, early settlers of Hamilton, where the latter died, the former passing away in Tennessee. Mrs. Webster died in 1859, in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which her husband was also a member. He was a staunch Democrat. Their children were as follows: James R.; Mary Elizabeth, who died unmarried in 1907; Lydia Rebecca, born in 1851, who resides on High street, Hamilton; and Joseph Hugh, born in 1859, of 640 High street, Hamilton, who married Amanda Dingfelder, and has three children,—Andrew, born in 1892; Ruth, born in 1895, and Daniel Hugh, born in 1898. James R. Webster was given his educational training in the public schools of Hamilton, subsequently attending Wesleyan university. He read law in the office of N. C. McFarlan and was admitted to the bar in 1865, but in January, 1866, went to New Orleans, La., where he was engaged in a cotton venture with his cousin. He also spent one year in Mississippi, and then returned to Ohio and located at Columbus, where he was engaged in the manufacture of trunks with A. J. Vandergrift until 1877. He then went to near Keokuk, Lee county, Iowa, where he was engaged in farming for some years, and spent the years 1883 and 1884 in the timber business in Tennessee, where he had large groves of oak and poplar. Because of the poor health of his father, who desired him at his side, he returned to the old home, and there remained for several years. In 1887 Mr. Webster located at Hamilton, where he embarked in the real estate business with Potter, Parlan and Ehrman. He subsequently laid out three subdivisions in West Hamilton and was the main factor in securing the big factory of the McNeal & Irwin Safe company for Hamilton, at a cost of $48,000, and was the medium through which numerous other large deals were transacted, all tending to add to the commercial importance of his native city. Later Mr. Webster secured large tracts of land in the rice country of Louisiana and built what is known as the Union Rice mill, located at Crowley, that state, which he operated with much success for two years. He also organized the company which built and operated the Orange Rice mill, at Orange, Texas, and conducted it for a time, but subsequently returned to Crowley, La., where he operated the Webster rice plantation of 1,700 acres, a property which he still owns. On his return to Hamilton, he and his brother tore down the old Webster building, on High street, and replaced it with the present modern structure. In various other ways Mr. Webster has contributed to the business prestige of Hamilton. He is a member of the Mayflower Society of Cincinnati, and of the Masons, which he joined in 1868, being identified with the lodge at Columbus. He is a staunch Republican, and he and his family belong to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Webster was married August 4, 1875, to Harriet L. Wright, who was born at Rednersville, Prince Edward county, Ontario, Can., a daughter of George W. and Emeline (Taylor) Wright, natives of the same place. Her paternal grandfather was Dr. Hiram Wright, of New York, a son of Col. Daniel Wright, of

Herkimer county, N. Y. The parents of Mrs. Webster came to Ohio in 1858 and located at Mount Vernon, Knox county, where Mr. Wright followed the trade of carpenter until his death in February, 1901, at the age of nearly seventy-eight years. Mrs. Wright, who was born August 25, 1822, died in January, 1901. She was a granddaughter of Lyman Clark, a Revolutionary soldier. Mr. and Mrs. Wright were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. and Mrs. Webster are the parents of one daughter; Clara Louise, a very talented young lady who has always made her home with her parents. She has had a splendid education, being a graduate of the Hamilton high school and Oskaloosa college, Iowa, and holds the degree of Ph. D. She and her mother are members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, so is also Mrs. Webster, while Mr. Webster is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Webster also have an adopted daughter, Eleanor Webster Anness.

Andrew J. Wehr. Among the prosperous agriculturists of Butler county is Andrew J. Wehr, the owner of a fine and well-improved farm located in Reily township. Mr. Wehr comes of an agricultural family, and has passed his entire life amid the surroundings of the farm. He was born in Franklin county, Ind., in 1869, a son of Jackson and Mary (Montgomery) Wehr, the former a native of Butler county, Ohio, and the latter of Franklin county, Ind. The parents were married in the latter county, where they continued in the pursuits of the soil until their deaths, and were known as honorable people who held the respect of their neighbors and all who knew them. Of their four children, two died young: Andrew J. was the third in order of birth; and Ora, now deceased, was the wife of Clem Thompson, a farmer of Reily township. The education of Andrew J. Wehr was secured in an old log cabin schoolhouse, known among the pioneers as Frog Pond school, and when he left his studies returned to farming. He was married in 1890 to Celestine, daughter of Daniel Baughman, of Mt. Carmel, who was a veteran of the Civil war and for a number of years engaged in farming. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wehr resided on the Wehr homestead for several years, and then came to Butler county and bought their present place, a farm of 170 acres, on which Mr. Wehr has made numerous valuable improvements. In addition he is the owner of 140 acres in Franklin county, Ind., while Mrs. Wehr is the owner of 160 acres near Mount Carmel. They are the parents of three children, all of whom are engaged in farming: Ralph, who married Edna White and lives in Franklin county, Ind., with four children,—Edith, Lawrence, Hazel and Alfred; Vinton, who married Bessie Enloe, has one child, Mildred, and resides just below Mount Carmel; and Clyde, who married Flora Hinkle, lives in Reily township, and has two children,—Pearl and Lola. The family belongs to the Presbyterian church and all of its members were cheerful and generous contributors to all war activities. Mr. Wehr is a good citizen who supports worthy movements, and a man whose integrity has never been questioned.

John Wehr. One of the old and honored families of the Oxford

community of Reily township is that which bears the name of Wehr. For several generations members of this family have improved the soil and aided in the development of Butler county. On the old family homestead in Reily township, October 25, 1865, was born John Wehr, a son of John and Nancy (Pierson) Wehr. The grandparents, who were among the earliest settlers of this locality, had done the pioneer work of clearing this property, and it had not passed out of the family's hands until recently, when it was sold by a grandson, S. M. Wehr, and with it was conveyed the original sheepskin deed. The grandparents had the following children: Lorenzo, Luther, Heil, Henry, John, Jackson, Anna and Elizabeth. On the maternal side, the grandfather of John Wehr was David Pierson, who had these children: Daniel; Nancy, who became Mrs. Wehr; Stietz; Polly; Mattie, who is now Mrs. Watkins, of Reily; Gideon, and two who died young. After their marriage, John and Nancy (Pierson) Wehr settled on a farm in the vicinity of Bath, Ind., but later returned to the old Wehr homestead, where John Wehr had been born. There they continued to spend their lives, and died in possession of a valuable and well-improved property as well as of the sincere respect of the people of their community, who had come to know and appreciate their many good qualities. They passed away on the home place and were reverently laid to rest in Springfield cemetery. Their children were as follows: Herbert, David, Stietz, Henry, John, Perry, Raymond, Margaret, Cora and Mary L. The public schools of Reily township furnished John Wehr of this notice with his educational training, and when he had finished his education he returned to the home place and continued to assist his father for a number of years. At the age of twenty-eight, he was united in marriage with Flora M., daughter of Benjamin and Mary Burgess, farming people of Franklin county, Ind., both of whom are now deceased. With the assistance of his capable and estimable wife, Mr. Wehr was soon on the high road to prosperity, and through industry and good management he has accumulated a handsome property, well cultivated and very productive, on which he has erected substantial buildings, including a substantial modern home. Mr. Wehr is not a politician, but has interested himself in local matters, and has served capably as township trustee. He has always been noted for his public spirit, and this, as well as his patriotism, was shown during the period of the war, when he was a willing worker and generous supporter of all war-time activities. During his long residence in Reily township he has formed many lasting friendships, and is generally esteemed for his estimable traits of character. Mr. and Mrs. Wehr are the parents of two children: Doyle and Eva.

Martin Wehr. A progressive, industrious and enterprising representative of the agricultural interests of Butler county is found in the person of Martin Wehr, the renter of a finely cultivated tract of farming property located in St. Clair township. Mr. Wehr is thoroughly familiar with conditions which prevail in this locality, as he has passed his entire life here, having been born on the farm which he now rents, March 21, 1866, a son of John and Susan

(Weikel) Wehr. John Wehr was born in Germany, but was only a lad of eleven years when brought by his parents to the United States, the family settling in Butler county on the Jacksonboro road. Here John Wehr grew to manhood and met and married Susan Weikel, who was born at Millville, Fairfield township, Butler county, a member of a pioneer family of this region, whose brother, John, served as a private in the Union army during the Civil war. After their marriage John and Susan Wehr settled on the farm in St. Clair township which is now occupied by their son, and there the father passed away about 1893 after a well-governed and honorable career. Mrs. Wehr, who survives him, resides on the old farm still and has a home of her own. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah and Mary, who are deceased; Martin; Mrs. Katie Bailey, of Michigan; George, a resident of Symmes Corners; Milton, who lives at Trenton; and Charles, whose home is at Overpeck. Martin Wehr received his educational training in the public schools of St. Clair township, and after leaving his school books applied himself whole-heartedly to assisting his father in the work of the home place. He was married in 1892 to Mary, daughter of Philip and Olive (Banning) Laudermann, of Wayne township, Butler county, farming people, and after marriage settled on the home place, of which he became the proprietor after the death of his father. This tract consists of 172 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation, which is being operated according to modern, progressive ideas, under able and well-directed management. Mr. Wehr is a business man who has the confidence of those with whom he has been associated, and as a citizen has left nothing to be desired in his support of worthy movements. This was shown during the time that the United States was a participant in the great war, when he cheerfully and generously supported the various drives, including Liberty Bond, Red Cross, War Savings Stamps, etc. He is a Democrat in politics, and he and Mrs. Wehr are faithful members of the Presbyterian church.

Daniel Weikel. In 1910 the retired colony at Middletown was augmented by the arrival of Daniel Weikel, who for many years had been engaged in agricultural pursuits in Butler county. His has been a career illustrative of the awards to be secured in character and fortune through the exercise of industry and the maintenance of high principles, for now, in the evening of life, he is one of his community's most highly esteemed citizens, possessed of means which enable him to surround himself with various comforts and conveniences. Mr. Weikel was born on the old family homestead in Butler county, July 13, 1844, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Buck) Weikel. His parents passed their lives as farming people, and, as industrious, God-fearing residents of their community merited and held general respect and confidence. Daniel Weikel grew to manhood on the home place and secured a district school education. When he came of age he began farming on his own account, and eventually became the owner of a fine farm, and continued its successful management and operation until his retirement. He added materially to its value through enrichment of the soil and the instal-

JACOB WEIKEL FAMILY

MR. AND MRS. J. C. WEIKEL

SARAH A. WEIKEL

NATHAN WEIKEL

MARY E. WEIKEL

lation of numerous improvements, and came to be known as a highly successful, progressive and skilled agriculturist. In 1910 he decided that he had done his share of hard work in life, and being possessed of a comfortable competence, turned over the farm to younger energies and February 8 moved to Middletown, where he has since lived in comfort in his home at 431 Garfield avenue. Mr. Weikel was married September 26, 1876, to Mary Ann, daughter of Josiah H. and Susan (Smith) Fall, and to this union there have been born eight children: Edna, who married Charles Graft; Josiah; Charles; Earl, who married Mary Smith of Lewisburg, O.; David, who married Carrie Lockey, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Lockey, and reside on the old Weikel farm, and Wilson, twins, Edith and Mamie; Wilson, the twin of David, is deceased. Mr. Weikel is a Democrat, but his only share in politics is that taken by a good citizen in the exercise of his franchise. Mrs. Weikel passed away December 3, 1918, and was buried in the Woodside cemetery.

Jacob C. Weikel, of Madison township, has always been engaged in farming, and in his evryday life and work proves that if a man understands farming and carries it on intelligently, he is bound to make a success of his undertaking. He was born on his present farm, February 6, 1842, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Buck) Weikel, natives of Berks county, Pa. Jacob Weikel was brought to Butler county by his father, John Weikel, when he was fifteen years old. John Weikel was a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Butler county, O., in 1802, being one of the very first settlers of this region, and securing wild land, set to work to clear it of timber and brush, and place it under cultivation. This first farm was in the neighborhood of Trenton, O., and after John Weikel had made it valuable, he sold it, and going to Dayton,O., invested in land, owning the present site of the courthouse. He and his wife had nine children. Jacob Weikel bought a farm in Madison township, and erected the brick house that still stands, in 1844, burning the bricks on the farm, and cutting all of the lumber used in its erection and for other building purposes, on his own land. He also made oil in the early days, and was in every way a very representative and progressive man. At one time he commanded a company of militia. Both he and his excellent wife were active members of the Lutheran church. She died in 1885, aged eighty-two years. They had nine children as follows: John, who was a teacher, married Hattie Lister, and after he lost an arm in a mine explosion, engaged in farming, and died in Preble county, O., in 1908; Samuel, who died in 1915, was a bricklayer and farmer, and married to Lucy Smith; Joseph, who is a bricklayer of Boone county, Iowa, married Eliza Hoffman; Jacob C., whose name heads this review; Daniel, who is a retired farmer of Middletown, O.; Eva, who married Henry Brill, lived in Preble county, O., is now deceased, as is her husband; Lydia, who is Mrs. John Bailey, lives in Madison township; Susan, who is Mrs. John Smith, lives in Montgomery county, O.; and Catherine, who is Mrs. Thomas Kearns, lives in Butler county, O. Jacob C. Weikel attended the schools of his native district, and has always

resided upon the homestead. This place comprises 161 acres of very valuable land, and Mr. Weikel also owns two other farms, one of 175 acres and the other of 189 acres. Having devoted all of his mature years to farming, he understands every detail of the work, and his methods are recognized to be excellent and are oftentimes followed by others less experienced. December 2, 1876, Mr. Weikel was united in marriage with Margaret A. Snyder, born in Madison township, a daughter of Daniel and Mary A. (Fall) Snyder, natives of Madison township, Butler county, and Preble county, O., respectively. Daniel Snyder was a son of John Snyder, who married a Miss Morningstar, a native of Germany, and became a very early settler of Madison township. Later, John Snyder moved to Middletown, O., where he died. Mary A. Fall was a daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Leslie) Fall, natives of Preble county, O., where they were reared, married and died, being farming people. Daniel and Mary A. (Fall) Snyder became the parents of the following children: Susanna, who is deceased; Benjamin, who died unmarried; Samuel, who is a farmer of Preble county, Ohio, married Louisa Velte; Alice, who was twice married, first to C. Eigler, and second to Nick Osner, who lives in Madison township; and Margaret, who also lives in Madison township; and Elizabeth, who is the wife of William Shafer, a retired farmer of Middletown, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Weikel have three children, namely: Mary Elizabeth, who married Joseph Smith, a farmer of St. Clair township, Butler county, has four children,—Ethel, Alma, Esther and Harold; Nathan, who is on the old homestead, married Margaret Six, and they have two children,—Emma and Elsie; and Sarah, who married Samuel Schenck, a farmer of Madison township, Butler county, has two children,—Elmer and Elsie. Both Mr. and Mrs. Weikel are consistent members of the Lutheran church in whose good work they take an active part. They are well and favorably known throughout Butler county, and their home is often the scene of pleasant gatherings when they entertain their relatives and other friends. The principles of the Democratic party find in Mr. Weikel a strong supporter, but he has never consented to permit the use of his name on the party ticket, as he has preferred to exert his influence, which is worth while, as a private citizen, and to devote his time and attention to his farming. It is such solid men as he that bring a community up to standard, and aid in the maintenance of the agricultural supremacy of the Miami valley. The farm is now in the possession of one of the fourth generation of the Weikel's, Nathan Weikel having purchased it from his father August 20, 1919. Mr. Weikel has as an heirloom an old grandfather clock which has stood for seventy years in the same corner in the old homestead.

Philip Weiland, of Reily township, Butler county, the progressive owner of a good farm which he is successfully conducting, was born in Fairfield township, Butler county, August 3, 1873, a son of Philip and Catherine (Horning) Weiland, natives of Germany. In his native land Philip Weiland, the elder, learned the trade of carpenter and on coming as a single man to the United States

worked at his trade for a time in New York, but later made his way to Hamilton, where he worked as a millwright at the Niles Tool company's plant for twenty-seven years. Here he met and married Catherine, daughter of Linus and Catherine Horning, who had been brought when a child to Butler county, where they passed their lives on a farm. Mr. and Mrs. Horning had the following children: Michael, Henry, George, Walter, Jacob, Catherine, Anna, Pauline and Emma. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Weiland settled at Hamilton, where Mr. Weiland died in 1912, and where his widow still resides. They were the parents of two children: Walter and Philip. Philip Weiland of this review attended school at Hamilton, and after leaving school secured employment as a machinist at the plant of the Niles Tool company, at Hamilton, where he was employed for twenty years. At the end of that period he removed to his present farm in Reily township, a tract of 161 acres, which he had inherited from his father's estate, and he is now one of the substantial men and able farmers of his section. During the great war he was a generous contributor to all war activities, and his citizenship has always been beyond reproach. In 1895, Mr. Weiland married Anna, daughter of Joseph and Emma Keller, of Hamilton, where Mr. Keller followed the trade of cooper for some years. There were eleven children in the Keller family. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Weiland: Clarence, manager of the Kroger grocery at Hamilton; and Thelma, Clifford and Naomi, who reside on the farm with their parents.

G. C. Welliver, a banker of superior ability, high character and excellent repute in financial circles, whose name is familiar to the people of Butler county and the adjacent country as president of the Oxford National bank, has been a resident of Oxford since boyhood, and during a long period of years was prominently connected with mercantile affairs. Starting upon his independent career when still a youth and with few advantages save an ordinary education, he has improved his opportunities and shaped his surroundings to meet his needs, and through individual effort has succeeded in advancing to a high place in the citizenship of his adopted community. Mr. Welliver was born in February, 1860, at Liberty, Union county, Ind., a son of G. W. and Kate (Warman) Welliver, the former a native of Butler county, Ohio, and the latter of Wayne county, Ind. The Wellivers were early settlers of Butler county, and several of Mr. Welliver's ancestors fought as soldiers of the Colonies during the War of the Revolution. Following their marriage, the parents of Mr. Welliver settled first at Brownsville, Ind., and later moved to Riley, this state, eventually coming to Oxford. G. C. Welliver attended the public schools of Oxford, Ohio, and took a preparatory course at Oxford, but his education was interrupted by the necessity of his having to become self-supporting. His father, while a man of ability and industry, suffered a general breakdown in his health when about twenty-five years of age, and being of an ambitious nature started out on his own career. When he started upon his career, G. C. Welliver was a clerk in the grocery store of Shera Brothers, at Oxford, where his industry and faithfulness

caused him soon to be a most trusted and valued employee, and seven years after the time of his first connection with this business, he was admitted to partnership. During the quarter of a century which followed, he continued to be identified with the grocery business and built up a substantial reputation as a man in whom the most implicit confidence could be placed by both the public and his associates. His name became synonymous with integrity and fidelity to trusts, and when he became president of the Oxford National Bank his reputation did much to strengthen that institution in public favor and to gain it additional prestige and patronage. In directing its policies he has been able to make its rating high in banking circles, and as a financier the sagacity and sound judgment manifested by him are recognized by all. In private life his course is exemplary, and as a citizen he is one of the most useful members of the community. His public spirit has been definitely shown on a number of occasions when he has given his services to beneficial movements, and during the great World war he was in charge of the work of the Red Triangle at Oxford. He has also served as a member of the Oxford Board of Education and in other ways has been a factor of general usefulness. February 14, 1884, Mr. Welliver was married to Addie M. Hatch of Butler county, and to this union there were born two sons: Charles B., attorney for the American Central Life Insurance company of Indianapolis, Ind., who married Gretchen Keener, of Weston, Ohio, and has one child, —Warman K.; and George, a junior of Miami university when he died at the age of twenty-one years. Mrs. Welliver's father was born in Old Orchard, Maine, coming to Butler county at an early day. He died at Hartford City, Ind., while his wife, Mrs. Welliver's mother, was born in Oxford and died there.

James T. Welsch, one of the well-known agriculturists of Oxford township, was born in Felicity, Clermont county, Ohio, April 26, 1860, son of Martin and Margaret (Vencker) Welsch, both parents being born in County Waterford, Ireland, and coming to this country early in life. After their marriage in Cincinnati in 1851 they settled in Kentucky near Covington, later coming to this county. Here they took up farming on the old farm of Dr. Chalfont. In 1862 they moved to the farm where James T. Welsch now resides. To Martin and Margaret Welsch were born the following children: William, deceased; Mary A.; James T., the subject of this review; John; and Margaret. Mary married Dan U. Murphy and lives in Hamilton. John married Helen Welsh. Margaret was married to James D. White. The deceased brother is survived by his widow, Mary (Imhoff) Welsch. James T. Welsch received his early education in the common schools of Oxford township and after leaving school farmed on the old homestead, which by scientific cultivation he has brought to a high degree of productivity. In November 25, 1889, he married Miss Mary Phelan, a daughter of Patrick and Margaret Phelan; the former born in County Tipperary, Ireland; the latter in Queen's county. Realizing the greater possibilities of success in America they came with their respective families to this country and were married in the

Queen City. Subsequently they moved to Brownsville, Ind., thence to Oxford, Ohio, finally to Brookville, Ind., where he died and she yet lives. To them were born Mathew; Arthur, deceased; John, deceased; Mary, Richard, Patrick, William, Margaret, Joseph, and Catherine, deceased. Mathew lives at Brookville; Richard married Anna Foley; William married Nora Spaulding; Patrick lives in Indianapolis; Margaret was married to Joseph Lohrer. James T. Welsch and his wife have lived on the old farm which comprises seventy-six fertile acres since the day of their marriage, and to them have been born Josie, Mary, Mabel, and Paul. Josie and Mary are employed in the office of the National Cash Register company, Dayton, Ohio; while Mabel and Paul reside at home with their parents. The family holds membership in St. Mary's Catholic church, Oxford, and was prominent in all war-time activities, rendering exceptional service in the cause of freedom.

Leslie H. Wente, one of Hamilton's substantial citizens, and regarded as one of the most resourceful electricians in the Miami valley, is manager of the Wente Electric company, with which he has been identified since 1912. Mr. Wente was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, January 29, 1885, a son of Edward H. and Louise M. Wente, of that city, who both survive, Mr. Wente being the traveling representative of a large hardware concern. The family consisted of six children: Florence, who resides at Cincinnati with her parents; Ellsworth A., in partnership with his brother in the electrical business at Hamilton, who is married and has two children, his wife having borne the maiden name of Marie Shiffmacher; Helen E., Robert E. and George B., who are unmarried and make their home with their parents at Cincinnati; and Leslie H. Leslie H. Wente attended the public schools of Cincinnati, following which he further prepared himself by a commercial course in a business college, and, having a natural trend toward electrical matters, next took a course in the International Correspondence school. His first business experience was gained in partnership with A. A. Shingleton, in a general electrical wiring and repair work establishment, an association which continued for about one and one-half years. His career was temporarily interrupted at this time by ill health, and upon recovering his health Mr. Wente went to work for the Bullock Electrical company, of Cincinnati, a concern with which he remained for one year. Next, he was identified with the Barriet Electrical company, in the capacity of assistant superintendent of the test department for one year, and next was with the American Machine company of Louisville, Ky., where he was in charge of the armature department. After superintending the winding of armatures for one year, he returned to Cincinnati for a few months, and in 1906 came to Hamilton and formed a partnership with Mr. Dickerscheid in the electrical business, the firm being known as the Hamilton Electrical company. This firm was dissolved January 1, 1912, when Mr. Wente founded the Wente Electric company, at No. 223 N. Fourth street, and later his brother, Ellsworth A. Wente, was admitted to partnership. In 1914 Leslie H. Wente went to Dayton in answer to the call of the Dayton Engineering Labora-

tories company to organize the armature department of their concern, and he left his brother in charge of the Hamilton business. His labors at Dayton completed and his work there successfully accomplished, in May, 1917, he returned to Hamilton, where he resumed his activities as one of the managers of the Wente Electric company, and has since continued to center his activities and interests here and the firm of which he is one of the proprietors has prospered and has grown into large proportions and now controls a large and well paying business. During the great flood of 1913 the concern suffered a loss approximating $12,000. That this did not break Mr. Wente's spirit is shown in the fact that he made immediate plans to recuperate the loss, and at the same time enter into a larger field of endeavor. He is a member of Washington Lodge of the Masonic order, and has numerous connections with civic, social and fraternal bodies. When, April 5, 1913, Mr. Wente was united in marriage with Lillian Bonnell, who was born and reared at Hamilton and educated in its public schools, there was solemnized the first marriage at Hamilton which took place after the receding of the waters of the floods. They are the parents of a bright and interesting little daughter, Mary Louise, born in 1916, and the family resides in one of Hamilton's pleasant homes, where they extend bounteous hospitality to their numerous friends.

Joseph Wespiser was born in Alsace-Lorraine, May 29, 1880, and was given a common school education in his native land. From his father, who was an honored citizen and a skilled artisan of his community, he inherited a taste for mechanics, and in young manhood mastered the carpenter's trade, which he followed with the elder man, who was largely engaged in contracting. In his own country, finding little to encourage him to believe that he could secure success and independence, he accordingly turned his face to the United States, where he arrived in 1904, being then twenty-four years of age. He arrived at Oxford, December 24, and at once secured employment at his trade, the following year being spent in familiarizing himself with the language and business customs of his adopted land. In 1905 he embarked in business on his own account, and since that time has had a large share in the upbuilding and development of the city. He is now one of the best known and generally recognized contractors of Oxford. Among the structures erected by him are the new postoffice, Stark's garage and a number of other prominent buildings, as well as modern residences, and he likewise remodeled the Farmers State bank. His activities have not been confined to the city alone, his services having been called into use in the erection of the new bank and other structures at Liberty, Ind., and a number of large and attractive homes at Norwood, Cincinnati, one of the most exclusive residence districts of that city. Through splendid workmanship, fidelity to engagements, expediency in fulfilling contracts, fair representation and business integrity he has won the confidence of the community. His career has been one in which he has relied solely upon his own efforts to gain him success, for when he arrived in Oxford he had neither friends nor means to assist him. From a modest start, in

which he did practically all of his own work, he has built up a business so large in scope that he is compelled to hire the services of twelve skilled workmen throughout the year. Mr. Wespiser was married in November, 1906, to Bertha, daughter of Henry Halter, of Oxford, and following this union purchased his present home on Beech street. He and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic church and are generous contributors to its numerous movements of a moral and charitable character. While Mr. Wespiser has been too busy to engage actively in public life, he is a good citizen, who does his duty as a voter and whose support is never withheld from movements which his good judgment tells him will result in the benefit of the community.

Ralph C. Whitehead. Among the more active and energetic young farmers of Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, is Ralph C. Whitehead, who, has shown on numerous occasions that he is always prepared to lend his assistance in advancing the best interests of his neighbors and also furthering the prestige of the township as an agricultural center. Undoubtedly there are few other agriculturists in that section of his age who can point to such worthy record of achievement. Despite the fact that Butler county is known for the large number of young men born on farms who have elected to continue in this line of endeavor Ralph Whitehead is of the type who is able to make his influence in a community felt to the utmost degree and his prominence in Liberty township bears out this assertion. Considering his comparative youth and the indomitable energy and perseverance he has shown in the past his future is indeed reassuring. It was on January 10, 1885, that he was born in Liberty township, Butler county, the son of Ernest and Nettie A. (Cummins) Whitehead, who were both natives of the county and among the most respected residents of the community. The father followed farming in Liberty township in the early days, later locating in Middletown, Ohio, where he was engaged in the livery business. Although he met with success in this venture he had always been much attached to Liberty township and much impressed with its possibilities agriculturally. Accordingly, he disposed of his business in Middletown and returned to Liberty township to occupy and operate a 90 acre farm. From the beginning he met with encouragement until his death October 10, 1906. He was known as a man who was an excellent judge of farm values and any investment which he made in this regard invariably proved profitable. Also it might be stated that during his many years of residence in Ohio he cultivated wide acquaintance among landowners as well as business interests and was held in the highest esteem by all both as a citizen and progressive agriculturist. His father was Ralph Finly Whitehead, who was the first of that name to settle in Butler county. He located in Liberty township and remained there until his death, being one of the early settlers who busied himself in developing the farming resources of the county and causing Liberty township to become favorably known throughout the state because of its fertile soil and wide-awake agriculturists. Ralph C. Whitehead was one of four children of Ernest

and Nettie Whitehead, the others being Homer, Charles and Clara. He married Mabel S. Rosencrans. Like her husband the wife was also devoted to farm work and was much enamored of its environment. She might be described as the thrifty farm wife so familiar to those conversant with the history of American agricultural affairs and has always manifested the keenest interest in the material and spiritual welfare of her husband. To grow up in a community in which his parents and grandparents were early and respected residents was sufficient incentive for Ralph C. Whitehead to further the prestige of such an estimable family name and the success that he has had in this regard is in keeping with his determined efforts. His achievements have been such of which he might well feel proud and there is no question that the success he has had in the past will be more than duplicated in the future. He is a Republican in politics.

William B. Wick. An excellent illustration of American energy, ability, integrity and superior judgment is found in the building up of the William B. Wick Lumber company, one of the important enterprises of Hamilton. Mr. Wick, a machinist by trade, called suddenly to settle up the estate of his father, took hold of the business with such enterprise and zeal that it grew and flourished immeasurably and has become, under his sole ownership, one of the leading concerns of its kind in Butler county. William B. Wick was born August 29, 1875, at Hamilton, Ohio, and is a member of one of the old established and honored families of this locality. The first of the family to locate in Butler county was his grandfather, John Wick, who was born in Nuremburg, Germany, in 1808 and emigrated to the United States in 1846, settling on an uncultivated farm in the vicinity of Hamilton. There he developed a productive and valuable property, established a home, and continued to be engaged in agricultural pursuits until the time of his death in 1892. He and his wife were the parents of four children: John, Michael, Samuel and Martin. Martin Wick, the father of William B., was born in 1842 in Germany, and was a child of four years when he accompanied his parents to the United States. He was educated in the early district schools and was reared as a farmer, a vocation which he adopted on reaching manhood. However, at the age of twenty-one years, his attention was attracted to mercantile affairs, and he became identified with the lumber business of Giffin, Moore & Company, at Hamilton. Subsequently, he was with Patten, Parlin & Company, of Cincinnati for several years, but disposed of his interests with that concern and returned to Hamilton, where he was with the W. M. Dingfelder Lumber company until March 1, 1887. In the following June he embarked in the lumber business on his own account, at Front and Market Streets, Hamilton, and continued to be associated with this business until his death, June 19, 1901, when he was fifty-nine years of age. He was a staunch democrat in politics and a prominent and influential man of his day, serving with efficiency as a member of the city council and school board. He attended the United Presbyterian church, and was a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight Templar.

Mr. Wick's first wife bore the maiden name of Amanda Leffler, and was of Hamilton. She died in 1884, and he married for his second wife Catherine Davidson, also a Hamilton girl. By his first marriage he had five children: Mary, a proof reader with Brown & Whitaker, 117 Dayton street, Hamilton, Ohio; Edith, who died in 1885; William B.; Amanda, the wife of C. J. Bradfield, of Grand Junction, Colo.; and Pauline, the wife of G. J. Seltzer, of Louisville, Ky. William B. Wick was educated in the public schools of Hamilton, and as a young man devoted himself to learning the trade of machinist. The only son of his father, at the time of the latter's death, in 1901, he was called home to settle up the estate, and continued to conduct the business for the estate until January 1, 1914, when he bought the interest of the other heirs and became sole owner of the business. In June of the same year he located at his present place of business, 412 Maple avenue, where he erected a modern office and made all the improvements, and this enterprise has since grown into large and important proportions. The William B. Wick Lumber company now carried a full line of lumber, lath, shingles, posts, roofing, mill work, etc., and has a large and flourishing patronage, having on its books some of the principal contractors of the city, as well as in surrounding communities. Mr. Wick is a splendid business man who has made the most of his opportunities, and who has the respect and esteem of his associates and all who come into contact with him in either a social or business way. He is a Democrat in his political preferences and is a Knight Templar, Mason, and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Wick married Ella T. Kelly, of Hamilton, Ohio, and they are the parents of one daughter, Mildred, a graduate of Hamilton high school, class of 1919. Mrs. Wick and her daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Herman Wieche, an excellent example of what can be accomplished by the agriculturist who keeps pace with the times and is energetic is had in the success of Mr. Herman Wieche of Ross township, Butler county, Ohio, who began life as a tradesman and later adopted farming as his vocation because he believed that he could adapt himself admirably to farm activities and reap encouraging financial returns. Today he is one of the widely known and respected agriculturists of his section and the good fortune that has come to him is indeed in keeping with his determined efforts to make himself a success in the realm of farming. On account of his comprehensive knowledge of general business conditions and the thorough insight he gained into the methods employed by successful men of commerce and industry during the years that he traveled throughout the United States he decided that the best way to make farming profitable was to install every modern accessory that he could reasonably procure, thereby securing greater and more satisfactory crop production. The 170 acres of land which he cultivates have been developed to the highest point of productivity and the annual crop yield is always up to expectations. He has had the greatest success with his Fordson tractor and in each instance in which he has made improvement by adding the most up-to-date

mechanical appliances the investment has proved a fortunate one. Born in Estorf bei Neinburg an der Weser, Hanover, Germany, March 19, 1861, he was one of ten children of Lewis and Louisa (Bock) Wieche, both of whom were also natives of that place, the father having been a farmer all his life. Five children, Henry, Ernest, Louis, Dora and Lena, have passed away, while Mina, Dietrich, Carl and Wilhelm are living on the old home place in Germany. The father died in 1873 at the age of fifty-six, while his wife passed away in 1883, also at the age of fifty-six. Both were devout members of the Lutheran church. Herman Wieche attended the Lutheran schools in Germany and on approaching maturity decided that his talents were best adapted to the cabinet making business. He served four years as an apprentice and traveled all over Europe, working in various cities at his trade for the ensuing six years. Being full of vigor and of a roving disposition he decided to cast his fortune in the new world and accordingly set sail for the United States, brimful of hope and with a determination that was to be envied. He decided that the central west afforded the best opportunities for the newcomer and located in Hamilton, Ohio. He obtained employment with Bender Bros., and continued with this concern for twenty-eight years, which should be sufficient proof of his ability and trustworthiness. On August 15, 1889, he married in Hamilton, Ohio, Mrs. Mary Frechtling, widow of George Frechtling, and daughter of Robert and Catherine (Batzener) Richter. Both of her parents were natives of Germany, he having been born in Dresden and his wife in Wortemburg. Both came to the United States while still single and located in New York state for a time, later going to Hamilton, Ohio. He was a silversmith by trade and later followed the trade of painter. He died in 1880 at the age of sixty-five years, while his wife passed away in 1880 at the age of fifty-six. They were Lutherans and had two other children besides Mrs. Wieche, Miss Minnie, who became the wife of William Ulrich of Erie, Pa., and Hannah, who married Charles Slinker and is now deceased. Mrs. Wieche had two sons by her first marriage, Arthur and Carl Frechtling of Hamilton, Ohio, who are in the dairy and ice cream business and have an excellent trade. Herman Wieche and wife have three sons: Ernest, who was born November 16, 1890, and married Clara Meyers, they having one child, Mary; Henry, born May 11, 1893, who is now in the automobile business at Millville, Ohio, and Robert, born April 5, 1897. Ernest and Henry were educated in the home and high school, while Robert attended the State university at Columbus, taking the agricultural course. After marriage Herman Wieche and wife lived in Hamilton about three years. He later purchased the forty acre tract in Ross township, known as the old Crawford place, remodeled the house, built a new barn, corncrib, silo and outbuildings and cattle barn, two stories in height and 40x48 feet, also a second barn, 32x54, and granary. In addition to the eighty-eight acres in the home place he has also acquired 100 acres in section 10, part of the old Timberman place, and has erected up-to-date buildings thereon. As a breeder he has had the best of success,

raising Holstein cattle, Duroc Jersey and Red hogs, also draft horses. As a further evidence of his energy it might be stated that for a time after taking up farming he continued to work at the carpenter trade during his spare time. Although he has served on the board of education he has no political affiliations, being an independent voter. He is a member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran church of Hamilton, Ohio.

Joseph Williams is an agriculturist of the modern type, and one who combines practical methods with modern ideas, and who finds in this combination means of the attainment of prosperity and contentment. Mr. Williams was born in the state of Maryland, in 1856, and was a child when he accompanied his parents to Butler county. His father died when he was only two years old, but his mother, Catherine Williams, was a woman of resource and strength of character who managed to keep her children together and to give them a fairly good educational training in the public schools. Joseph Williams, after the completion of his studies, took up farming, a vocation to which he had been reared, and to which he has devoted his career. He is now the owner of a property of ninety-four and one-half acres, located in Union township, which has been gained through the medium of hard work and intelligently directed activities upon the part of Mr. Williams and his capable wife. He married Ollie, daughter of Frederick and Nancy (Lemon) Wicke. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have had four children, of whom two are living: Cora, who married Frank Neham and has three children,—Charles, Ruby and Franklin; and Fred, who married Della Albertson and is engaged in farming in Butler county. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have a pleasant and comfortable home, to which they welcome their many friends in the community.

Newcomb L. Williams, D. V. M. The success which has attended Dr. Newcomb L. Williams, of College Corner, as a veterinary surgeon, has been largely the outcome of a long and careful preparation. Doctor Williams' skill is acknowledged throughout his part of the Miami valley, and during the eight years that he has been in practice his clientele has extended into Butler, Preble and Warren counties, Ohio, and Union county, Ind. He was born at Delhi, Hamilton county, Ohio, November 24, 1891, a son of James N. and Frances E. (Allen) Williams, of Hamilton county. His father, a stockman and veterinary surgeon, died in 1895, while his mother still survives as a resident of Hyde Park, Ohio. They were the parents of three children: Clara, who resides with her mother; Lucille, the wife of R. I. Kingery, of College Corner; and Newcomb L. Newcomb L. Williams attended the graded and high schools of Glendale, Ohio, and after his graduation from the latter entered Johnson's college, at Cincinnati, Ohio. He pursued his professional studies at the Cincinnati Veterinary college, and upon his graduation therefrom furthered his training by several months of post-graduate study at Columbus, Ohio. Coming to College Corner, he entered upon the practice of his calling, in which he has rapidly advanced to a prominent place. He has made a specialty of vaccinating swine. Personally he is one of the popular young men

of his community and has a host of friends. He was married January 4, 1916, to Marie E. Witter, born near College Corner, Ohio, in Union county, Ind., and to this union there have been born two children: Cheryl L., born December 29, 1916; and Jack Allen, born February 25, 1918. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Presbyterian church.

William Williams. One of the first men to be employed in the plant of the American Rolling Mill company at Middletown was William Williams, who has continued to discharge his duties there since 1901. Mr. Williams was born at Portsmouth, Ohio, July 18, 1863, a son of William David and Caroline (Davis) Williams. His parents were born in Wales and came to the United States as young married people, for many years being residents of Portsmouth, Ohio, where the mother died when William Williams was a small boy. The father survived for a long time thereafter, and spent his declining years in the home of his son, where he died August 1, 1896. Mr. Williams' two sisters, Mrs. Thomas Johnson and Mrs. Isaac Langley, are deceased, while his two brothers, Arthur L. and Thomas Williams, are residents of Newport, Ky. William Williams was educated in the public schools and adopted his present vocation when still a young man. For a number of years he was variously employed in different communities, and in 1901 came from Piqua, Ohio, to Middletown to accept a position as one of the first employees of the American Rolling Mill company, and is still with the concern in the capacity of heater. He is a Republican voter and a man of broad general information upon the subjects of the day, with intelligent opinions regarding public issues. His fraternal affiliations are with the Improved Order of Red Men and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Williams was married at Newport, Ky., October 1, 1890, to Alice, daughter of Daniel and Louise (Weaver) Schneider, who died January 22, 1909, at Middletown. Three children were born to this union: two sons who died in infancy; and Louise Caroline, born at Piqua, October 10, 1898.

Ezra T. Williamson, one of the highly esteemed residents of Monroe, is now retired from active life, but was formerly quite extensively engaged in farming. He was born at Bethany, O., November 27, 1839, a son of Peter and Hannah (Lamb) Williamson, and grandson of David Williamson. David Williamson was born in Pennsylvania, his parents being natives of Holland, who came to the United States and settled in the Keystone state. Early in life he went to Kentucky, moving from there to Ohio, locating at Bethany. His wife bore the maiden name of Van Dyke, and they had four sons, namely: David, John, George and Peter. By trade he was a carpenter, and he was also engaged in farming. Both he and his wife died at Bethany, O. Peter Williamson attended the schools of Bethany, and learned the carpenter trade under his father's instruction. In addition to working at his trade, he operated a store and hotel for many years, and was postmaster of Bethany for a long period. A Democrat, he was elected by his party township treasurer, and held that office for twenty-six years. Peter Williamson belonged to the Presbyterian church, and his

wife to the Baptist church. His death occurred in 1897, when he was seventy-eight years old, having been born at Jerico, O., in January, 1801. His wife died at the age of seventy-two years, having been born in New Jersey in 1804. Their children were as follows: Ruth, who married Alfred W. Curtis, is deceased; Mary F., who married David Crane, is deceased; Milton T., who served his country as captain of a company of infantry during the Civil war, was appointed a general of militia and a United States marshal and assigned to Tennessee, having charge of the Memphis district, died in 1902, and prior to the war he was an attorney and newspaper editor at Memphis; Ezra T., whose name heads this review; Peter, who was a carpenter and contractor of Hartwell, O., is now retired; and Eliza Jane, who married John W. Stabler, and is now deceased. Ezra T. Williamson attended the common schools of his neighborhood, but secured only limited educational advantages, although he taught school for two winters at Bethany, O. When he was thirty-two years old, January 7, 1868, Mr. Williamson was united in marriage with Martha S. Davison, born in Lemon township, a daughter of William and Isabelle (Sweet) Davison, he being born in New Jersey in 1807, and she born in New York in 1812. They came to Butler county, O., with their parents, and were reared in Lemon township, where they married, and settled in this township, and became extensive farmers. He was a Democrat, and prominent in his party, serving for some years as county commissioner. Their children were as follows: Mary J., who married Albert H. Potter, is deceased; Martha S., who is Mrs. Williamson. William Davison died in 1881, his wife having passed away in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson have the following children: Carrie, who married J. A. Deneen, a farmer and stockman, and superintendent of the Butler county infirmary, has one son—Lawrence, the other son, Ralph being deceased; Blanche, who married H. E. Nichols, manager of the Sea Coast Packing company, has four children—John, Esther, Marian and Ruth; Homer D., a physician of Bethany, attended the home schools, and then in 1901 entered the Ohio State university, from which he was graduated as chemist, following which he attended Columbus Medical college from which he graduated and then settled in Lorain, O., later moving to Bethany, where he has since resided; and Irene, who attended the Monroe High school and the Ohio State university, was graduated from the latter in 1906, and taught at West Jefferson and Nelsonville, Ohio, and is now teacher of higher mathematics in a school at Sharon, Pa. Following his marriage, Mr. Williamson continued to live at Bethany, O., until 1872, being engaged in farming, threshing and conducting a general store. In 1872 he moved to Lemon township, Butler county, one and one-half miles west of Monroe, and remained there until 1874, when he went on a farm one and one-half miles South of Middletown, Ohio, and conducted it until 1880, when he bought the Smith farm of ninety-seven and one-half acres south of Monroe. Moving to it he made many improvements, and brought it into a high state of cultivation, and remained on it until the spring of 1911, when he retired,

and since then has lived at Monroe. A prominent Democrat, he has been called upon to serve in several offices, and was a school director for some years, and clerk of the state board of health from 1901 to 1910. Mr. Williamson belongs to Monroe Lodge, No. 89, I. O. O. F. and Middletown Lodge, K. of P. He is a man who has always been scrupulously upright in all his dealings, and has won and retains the confidence and respect of all who know him. His family has developed in a way to do him honor, and he and his wife have every reason to be proud of their children and what they have and are accomplishing.

George M. Williamson. For more than a quarter of a century George M. Williamson has been helping to make history in Butler county, and so well has he directed his energies that in 1919, at the age of fifty-six years, he was able to retire from active life on a comfortable competence. He has led a simple, active and methodical life, and his busy hands have manipulated the constructive implements of the agriculturist in a manner at once valuable to himself and helpful to the community in which he has always made his home. Mr. Williamson was born on the old Williamson homestead in Madison township, Butler county, Ohio, October 30, 1863, a son of Garrett and Julia Ann (Hitzler) Williamson. His father was born on the same farm, May 2, 1815, and was two years of age when his parents moved from the house in which he was born to another one where he subsequently spent his life in the quiet pursuits of the soil. He was a man of industry, whose integrity was never doubted, and who made and kept friends and confidants. March 20, 1845, he married Julia Ann Hitzler, with whom he lived happily for forty-six years and they became the parents of five daughters and two sons, three of whom are deceased, a son and two daughters. They were for many years members of the Pleasant Ridge United Brethren church, in which Mr. Williamson held office. Their children were: Margaret, the widow of George Hartley, living at Mattoon, Ill.; Catherine, the widow of Rev. T. A. Childs, residing at Franklin, Ind.; Phoebe, who died at Mattoon, Ill., as the wife of Sylvanus Eck; Mary, who died young; John D., born March 4, 1856, who was a farmer in Madison township and died January 25, 1905; Sarah, the widow of Harvey Brooks, of Middletown, Ohio; and George M. The father of these children died April 23, 1891. George M. Williamson attended the schools of his native locality and remained under the parental roof until the time of his marriage, in 1887, to Sarah Amanda Crauder, who was born in Adams county, Ohio, a daughter of Charles and Caroline (Kleinknecht) Crauder, the former born in Wittenberg, Germany, and the latter near Decatur, Ohio. Mr. Crauder came to the United States as a young man and located at Decatur, Ohio, where he secured employment in a mill. Later he took up farming as his vocation and continued to engage therein until his death in 1902, since which time his widow has been a resident of Greenbush, Ohio. There were three children in the family: John, a farmer and thresher near Greenbush; C. E., formerly a teacher and now engaged in the automobile business; and Sarah Amanda, now Mrs. Williamson. Three

daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Williamson; Myrtle Marie, a graduate of the Middletown High school, now the wife of Everett Crout, a farmer of Madison township, with one son, George Clements; Mabel May, a graduate of the Middletown High school, and a teacher for two years in the rural schools near Dayton; and Mary Viola, who spent one year at Oxford college, and is now a teacher at Middletown, after two years in the country districts. The father of these girls is a great friend of and believer in education, and gave his daughters all possible advantages to fit them for their struggle with life. Throughout the active portion of his career, Mr. Williamson carried on farming on his property in Madison township, known as the old Williamson homestead, originally settled by his pioneer grandfather. There he raised all the standard crops, and did a good business in Jersey, Holstein and Durham cattle, Draft horses and Duroc Jersey hogs, in addition to which, as a side line, he was successful as an agent for different fertilizer firms. In 1919, however, he decided to retire from active affairs, and accordingly disposed of his interests and moved to his comfortable modern home at Middletown. His long and prominent connection with agricultural affairs gave him a wide acquaintance, in which he had many friends and well-wishers; and this connection also made him thoroughly conversant with matters pertaining to farming and stock raising, of both of which vocations he was considered an expert. He has not sought personal preference in public life, but keeps in close touch with the same, and is quick to respond to a worthy appeal which touches upon the general welfare. His political patronage is given the Democratic party. With his family, he belongs to the United Brethren church, the work of which has always had his sincere and helpful interest, and during the past thirty years he has been a member of the board of trustees, while for sixteen years he has acted as steward.

H. D. Williamson, M. D., of Bethany, Ohio, is among the well known successful physicians of that section who enjoyed the environment of farm life. He is not only one of the most capable and really conscientious doctors of his city, but he is also one of the most highly esteemed. He was born near Middletown, Butler county, Ohio, and when about one year old he moved with his parents to Monroe, Butler county, Ohio, where he attended the public schools and was graduated from the high school at that place in 1895. After leaving school he remained on the farm about two years. It was his desire, however, to become a doctor and accordingly, he attended the Ohio State university for two years, taking the scientific course. Later he attended the Sterling Medical college at Columbus, Ohio, which afterward became a part of the Ohio State Medical college. He received his degree of M. D. from this institution in 1904 and then located at Lorain, Ohio. He was strongly of the belief that Bethany, Ohio, afforded the best field for the most profitable practice of his profession and in 1906 located there, where he has since been in active practice. In the course of the first few years of his practice in Bethany Doctor Williamson became a potent factor in the medical affairs of that city and was recognized as a

physician who could be depended upon to look out for the best interests of patients. Year by year his practice developed until today he is known as one of the truly representative medical practitioners of Butler county. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical societies and an independent Democrat. Those familiar with his affairs assert that the prestige now enjoyed by Doctor Williamson will undoubtedly be furthered materially within the next few years and his estimable standing as a physician and citizen also added to.

Carman Aaron Wilson. While the history of Carman Aaron Wilson belongs rather to the past of the Miami valley than to the present, inasmuch as more than a score of years have passed since his demise, his life was so filled with successful accomplishments and so replete with kindly deeds, worthy actions and splendid citizenship, that it is eminently deserving of a place in the annals of men who have made Miami valley history. Mr. Wilson was born in New Jersey, February 10, 1823, a son of Peter and Abigail (Golden) Wilson, natives of New Jersey, who came to Butler county, Ohio, in 1831 and located near Woods Station, where they cleared a farm, established a home, and passed the rest of their lives in the pursuits of agriculture. They had seven children: Amy, Carman Aaron, Hannah, Mary, Phoebe, Isaac and Fannie. Isaac, the only survivor, is a resident of Chicago, Ill. Carman A. Wilson was given the advantages of only a common school education, and his home training was such that one of his strongest characteristics was his filial affection. He remained at home and cared for his parents until their deaths, and then went to Mount Carmel, Franklin county, Ind., to care for an uncle, Spencer Golden, who was in poor health. After living with his uncle for a year he took up his home with an aunt and cousin, who had his affectionate care and devotion until their deaths, ten years later. At that time he located at Woods Sation, on the old home place, and established a home of his own, marrying a widow, Mrs. Wilkinson, who had three children: Henry, Mary and Calvin. She died two years later at Mount Carmel, Ind., where Mr. Wilson had inherited his uncle's property. In the fall of 1870 he returned to Woods Station, where he was married to Hannah Cook, of Switzerland county, Ind., daughter of John and Eleanor (Buerss) Cook, the latter a native of Cincinnati and the former of Kentucky. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cook located near Vevay, Ind., whence they removed in 1851 to Peoria county, Ill., and then in 1858 to Logansport, Ind. In the fall of 1861 Mr. Cook enlisted from Logansport in the Forty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served bravely and faithfully until receiving his honorable discharge in 1865. While cutting out roads during his army service, he was badly ruptured and confined to the army hospital for a long period, and this injury bothered him more or less all through his life. On the completion of his military service he returned to Logansport, but later removed to Missouri. Owing to the state of his wife's health, he returned to Woods Station, and there his death occurred when he was ninety-one years of age, Mrs. Cook passing away when at the age of eighty-four. Mr. Cook

C. A. WILSON AND FAMILY

was an industrious and practical farmer and made a success of his operations. He was a staunch Republican, and he and Mrs. Cook were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of their seven children, five are living: Carrie, living with Mrs. Wilson, the widow of James Cultra; Mrs. Wilson; Tama L., of Wichita, Kans., widow of Martin Coonsman; John W., of Macon, Mo.; and Isabella, the wife of Van Herron, living near Chanute, Kans. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson: Lessie; Irene, the wife of Joseph L. Garver, a contractor of Hamilton; and Carrie Inez, the wife of Vernon Hughes, formerly a contractor but now conducting operations on the Wilson farm. The first child, Lessie, who died in 1901, was the wife of Frank Howe, and had the following children: Charles W., William V., Clifford F., Lincoln I., who married Mell Hiatt of Hamilton and they have one daughter, Margaret Lessie; and Lucille. These children were reared by their grandmother, Mrs. Wilson. Charles W., a successful civil engineer of Dayton, who during the World war was a member of a United States training camp and rose to the rank of lieutenant before receiving his discharge, married Grace Shafer. Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson located at Woods Station, where Mr. Wilson purchased a farm, on which they lived for ten years. He next bought the farm on the Darrtown pike, St. Clair township, and that continued to be the family home from 1881 until Mr. Wilson's death, September 26, 1898. He made many improvements on this property, which consists of 150 acres, and through his splendid business management succeeded in accumulating much other property, including farms of 120 acres at Woods Station, farms of 150 acres and 200 acres respectively in other localities, and much valuable Hamilton real estate. During his active years he was a large stock and hog dealer and a splendid business man in every way. His associates and all with whom he had dealings of any nature, relied implicitly not only upon his judgment but upon his word, and his business record was without blemish of any character. One of the prominent men of his locality, widely known and universally respected, he wielded an influence for the betterment of his community and being a heavy money loaner he was instrumental in helping many a man to his feet. He was not an office seeker, although a strong man in the ranks of the Democratic party. His death removed from the community a man who had done much to contribute to its progress and advancement. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Wilson continued to reside on the home farm for a time, and then moved to Hamilton, where she took up her residence at No. 141 Ross street. Later she built the beautiful residence at No. 121 Eaton avenue, which is now her home. She is a woman of fine intellectual attainments and has many warm and appreciative friends at Hamilton, particularly among the members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the work of which religious body she has been active and helpful.

C. Val Wilson. There is no section in the country where the services of skilled electrical engineers and experienced general contractors are in more active demand than in the Miami valley,

where, owing to the rapid and marvelous growth and development, municipal improvements and vast private enterprises are conducted upon the most extensive scale. A leading and prominent representative devoted to this department of industrial activity is C. Val Wilson, an electrical engineer of broad and varied experience, who acts in this capacity for the well-known Hamilton firm of Black & Clawson. Mr. Wilson was born March 24, 1867, in Butler county, Ohio, a son of James and Charlotte (Knox) Wilson, the former a native of England and the latter of Dublin, Ireland. They came to Butler county as children, Mrs. Wilson making her home with Joshua Hughes until she grew to young womanhood, while Mr. Wilson lived with his parents in the vicinity of Bethany. After their marriage they settled on a Butler county farm, which they continued to operate until Mr. Wilson's death, since which time Mrs. Wilson has been living in retirement. James Wilson was one of the worthy citizens of his day and neighborhood, a man of integrity, an industrious farmer, a staunch Democrat, and a pillar of the Methodist church. He and his wife were the parents of two sons and one daughter: Edgar, of Glenwood, Ind., who married Katie Book and had three children: Anna, the wife of Joseph Morris, a son of I. K. Morris of Butler county, with one daughter; and C. Val. C. Val Wilson was educated at the old Jones Station school house in Butler county and at Springdale, Ohio, following which he took up and mastered the science of electrical engineering. During his earlier years, while following his profession, he traveled extensively through the South, Southwest and West, but eventually returned to Ohio and became identified with the Queen City Electrical company at Cincinnati, in the capacity of assistant superintendent. He remained with that concern for eight years, and then came to Hamilton to take the superintendency of the municipal electric plant, at that time under process of construction. Subsequently he embarked upon a long term of service with the Niles Tool works and continued to be in their employ for seventeen years, and when he left it was to become electrical engineer for the firm of Black & Clawson, of Hamilton, with which concern he has been identified for about eight years. Mr. Wilson is a thorough master of his vocation and accounted a valuable man in his line, as well as an expert and an authority upon a number of questions. He belongs to various organizations of his craft and stands high in the estimation of its members. As a fraternalist, he belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Loyal Order of Moose, while his voting franchise is exercised in behalf of the candidates of the Democratic party. With his family, he belongs to the St. Joseph's Catholic church. In March, 1896, Mr. Wilson was united in marriage with Miss Rose Miller, daughter of John and Regina Miller, early settlers of Butler county. Mrs. Wilson, who received her early education at St. Stephen's parochial school, and graduated from the Hamilton High school in the class of 1894, is a lady of many accomplishments, and a talented performer on the piano. She and her husband are the parents of five children: Clement J., born in 1899, educated at St. Joseph's parochial school

and the local high school, and now engaged in electrical work; Marie, aged fifteen years, attending Notre Dame academy, where in addition to the regular course she is studying music; and Stanley, aged twelve; Helen, aged eleven, and Charlotte, aged nine years, all of whom are attending St. Joseph's parochial school.

Fred Ellsworth Wilson. The claim of Fred Ellsworth Wilson upon the good-will and consideration of his fellow-townsmen at Middletown is based upon a number of years of steady and effective work as a sheet heater's helper at the great plant of the American Rolling mill, and upon his activity is promoting music and religion and kindred accompaniments of advanced civilization. He was born at Apollo, Pa., June 1, 1892, a son of Henry T. and Martha (Carney) Wilson, the former of whom is at present a millwright in the galvanizing department of the American Rolling mill. His brother, Victor Orr Wilson, is also identified with that company, being in the factory department, although his work was interrupted by the war, when he served on the quartermaster's staff. He married Mildred Comer of Middletown. Fred E. Wilson was educated in the public schools of Apollo, Pa., and was but seventeen years of age when he came to Middletown, shortly thereafter entering the employ of the American Rolling Mill company, with which concern he has since been identified, at present being the incumbent of a position as heater. He is a thorough and competent worker, energetic and possessed of great capacity for intense application, and is in the confidence of his employers and on terms of good fellowship with his fellow-workmen. One year after his arrival at Middletown, Mr. Wilson was joined by his parents, who have since made their home in this community, where they are highly respected and esteemed. Fred E. Wilson was married November 2, 1910, to Grace Cleoph Albaugh, who was born at Gratis, Ohio, October 21, 1892, a daughter of Peter Mathias and Leona (Bunch) Albaugh, the former still residing on a farm near West Alexandria, Ohio, where the latter died March 20, 1918. There were twelve children in the Albaugh family, three of whom are deceased, one dying in infancy: Grace C., who became Mrs. Wilson; Daisy, the wife of William Coleman, of Gratis, Ohio; Gertrude, the widow of George Howard, and now deceased; Sadie, the wife of Clem Apple, of Farmersville, Ohio; Ola, who is a resident of West Alexandria; Vernon, a resident of Middletown; Alva, who lives at West Alexandria; Mabel, the widow of Vern Bookwalter, makes her home with her father; Opal, the wife of Oliver Evers of Gratis; and Dewey, deceased; Clifford, a resident of West Alexandria. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are the parents of one daughter, Freda Cleo, an exceedingly bright little girl in the primary department of the Middletown public schools. Mr. Wilson is a favorite in social circles, being a gifted musician capable of performing on a number of instruments, and has frequently appeared at social functions, in addition to being a trustee of the local Musicians' union. In 1914, he erected his present pleasant home on Grand avenue, where his numerous friends and those of his wife, are always made welcome. Mrs. Wilson takes a prominent part in church work, as a member of the Oakland Presbyterian church, of which

her husband is a member of the board of trustees, and she is also helpfully interested in the work of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mr. Wilson belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Masons, and is in good standing as to his membership in the Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers. He is liberal in political views, and is generally found casting his vote rather for the man and the principle than the party.

Howard A. Wilson. A highly esteemed member of the business fraternity of Middletown is Howard A. Wilson, whose entire career has been devoted to the vocation of undertaking and funeral directing. Mr. Wilson has developed one of the most substantial establishments of its kind in the city, and in business circles is known as a man of the highest integrity and strictest probity. He was born at Middletown, December 22, 1875, a son of Arthur T. and Jennie M. (Hill) Wilson. His maternal grandfather was Alexander Hill, who was born in Scotland, and as a young man emigrated to the United States and settled at Rockville, Conn., where his daughter, Jennie M., was born, she being a child when brought to Butler county, Ohio. Howard A. Wilson was educated in the public schools of Middletown, and was variously employed until embarking in the undertaking business, which he has since followed with increasing success. He has an establishment that is modern in every department, and has secured and held the confidence of the public. A man of infinite tact, and kindly heart, he has proved a sympathetic friend and considerate adviser in the households which have been visited by the angel of death, and has made friendships that have proved sincere and lasting. He is a Republican in politics, and has served his city well in a public way, having been for four years a member of the local council. As a fraternalist he is affiliated with the Order of Elks, is a Knight Templar, and thirty-second degree Mason, and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church. October 24, 1900, Mr. Wilson married Mary E., daughter of James H. and Sarah R. (Emerson) Shields, the former of near Bellefontaine, Ohio, and the latter of Concord, Vt. Six sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson: Albin Shields, George Arthur, Howard A., jr., Thomas Hill, William James and Paul Emerson. Thomas Wilson was born about eight miles west of Middletown, to which town he came and started in the cabinet making and undertaking business. For three generations this business has been carried on by the Wilsons—from grandfather to grandson—and is considered the oldest in this line of business in Middletown.

Samuel B. Wilson. Located on the old Trace road in Wayne township, one mile northwest of Seven Mile, is the old Wilson homestead, one of the fine old country estates of Butler county. Here, September 10, 1861, was born Samuel B. Wilson, who for many years was engaged in cultiyating its soil, but who has now retired from active pursuits after a career of successful and useful labor and makes his home at Seven Mile, where he is one of the highly esteemed members of the retired colony. Mr. Wilson is a son of Burns and Melinda (Young) Wilson, the former being of English descent and the latter of Pennsylvania stock, and a grandson

of Anthony Wilson, who was a pioneer of the log-cabin epoch in Wayne township, where he settled on the homestead mentioned above, and where he spent his life in the hard work of developing a productive farm from the wilderness. Burns Wilson, born on this estate, grew up as a farmer's son and secured his education in the district schools of his day. He became associated with his father as a farmer, and when the elder man died assumed management of the place, which he operated successfully and honorably until his death, April 4, 1884, at the age of sixty-one years, his widow surviving him until August, 1901, when she passed away at seventy-two years of age. They were members of the Presbyterian church at Seven Mile, and Mr. Wilson was a Republican and held a number of township offices. There were eight children in the family: Rhuehama, a farmer in LaBette county, Kan.; William E., who was a farmer and in the coal and flour and feed business at Hamilton until his death in April, 1912; he left a widow who had been Lizzie Caldwell; Mary, of Hamilton, the widow of Jacob Trump; Ella, of Seven Mile, widow of F. A. Schmidlin, a merchant and banker who died in February, 1919; Samuel B., of this review; Charles B., an electrician of Seven Mile; Ada, also of Seven Mile; and George A., who went to Alaska during the gold rush and mined there, but is now in the wholesale leather business at Los Angeles, Calif., and married to Lulu Cook. The public schools of Seven Mile and Lebanon furnished Samuel B. Wilson with his educational training, following which he became associated with his father in farming operations. At the time of the elder man's death he took charge of the farm, on which Burns Wilson had built the fine brick home, and there continued to farm until the time of his retirement, March 1, 1914. He then moved to Seven Mile, although he is still the owner of the old home place, which is one of the fine country estates of Butler county, with improvements and conveniences of the most modern character. Mr. Wilson is a Republican in his political sentiment, and a member of the Knights of Pythias at Seven Mile, and he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church at Seven Mile. July 18, 1892, he married Letha S. Long, who was born in Madison township, Butler county, a daughter of Hampton H. Long, a sketch of whose career appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are the parents of one daughter: Mabel E., who married Thurman L. Fisher, a farmer of Collinsville, and they have the following children: Lewis, Warren, Eleanor, Hugh, Helen, Ethel and Clarence.

Lewis G. Wintersteen. Of the agriculturists who have helped to sustain the farming integrity and prestige of Butler county during the past several decades, mention is due Lewis G. Wintersteen, of the Jacksonboro community. He has been a resident of this locality all of his life and has been a constructive factor in assisting in the progress of one of the most fertile and productive sections of the great Miami valley. Mr. Wintersteen was born on a farm near Jacksonboro, a son of William and Anna (Truster) Wintersteen. His father, who was a successful agriculturist, served for a number of years as the village squire of Jacksonboro, and was a man universally respected and esteemed. He died January 20, 1915, while

his widow is still living and makes her home at Jacksonboro. Lewis G. Wintersteen was educated in the public schools and was reared in a family where honesty and industry were held in high esteem. His brothers and sisters, like himself, were given good advantages and strict training, and those who survivé have gained places of honor in the communities in which they reside. The first child died in infancy; Frank married Cora Ferris; Lewis G. is the third in order of birth; Myrtle is now Mrs. Hood; Lizzie is deceased; May married Sam Boomerschine; and Myrtle is the wife of Earl Gross, of Camden. Lewis G. Wintersteen, on attaining his majority, engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account, and recently purchased the Samuel Stokes farm, a tract of 160 acres near Jacksonboro, which he has placed in the finest of condition. He has modernized the home and other buildings, and has improved the land with drainage, and everything about the property shows that good management is present. He is a Democrat in politics and a good citizen, and he and the members of his family attend the Methodist church at Seven Mile. Mr. Wintersteen was married in 1905 to Myrtle, daughter of George G. and Catherine (Conorroe) Hood, of Somerville, and to this union there has been borne one son: Vernon, aged twelve years, who is attending the public school. Mrs. Wintersteen's father died August 8, 1904, and her mother August 9, 1912. There were nine children in their family: Mrs. Wintersteen; Ella, who married Harry Ray; Setta, who married George Francis; Minna, who married Charles Cornthwaite; Ed Hood, who married Lola Wagner; Ralph, who married Ida Gerber; Susie, who married Henry Lintner; Harvey; and Cora, who married Ora Chapin.

David K. Withrow. During a long, active and honorable career, David K. Withrow has been a resident of a number of localities in the pursuit of several vocations, but Butler county and agricultural work have always appealed to him principally, and while he has been retired from farming for some years, he is spending the evening of life amid the surroundings of his boyhood, youth and much of his manhood. He deserves mention in this volume, inasmuch as he is an exemplary citizen of Overpeck who has done his share in the development of the interests of the communities in which he has resided. Without any air of pretentiousness he has humbly and faithfully fulfilled his duties in all the relations of life. Mr. Withrow was born May 16, 1883, in Wayne township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Samuel P. and Mary (Latshaw) Withrow, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Pennsylvania. Samuel P. Withrow was a child of two years when he accompanied his parents, John and Ann Withrow, from Kentucky to Butler county, and this family has the distinction of being the first settlers of Wayne township northeast of Seven Mile. John Withrow secured wild land from the government, cleared it of the timber and made a home for himself and family, and there rounded out his career as a farmer. He and his wife were the parents of five children. Samuel P. Withrow grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools in Wayne township, and on growing to man-

hood took up the work of cultivation. During the period that he was the proprietor of the homestead contributed greatly to its value through making improvements and developing the fertility of the soil, and among the structures erected by him was a comfortable brick house to replace the frame dwelling that had been the family domicile for many years. He was a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the faith of which he died in 1887 at the advanced age of ninety-two years, while Mrs. Withrow passed away twenty years before, when sixty years old. He was again married after her death, being united with Charlotte Beard of Cipro, Ohio, who died at Seven Mile where they had lived retired. The children of Samuel P. Withrow, all by his first union, were: Robert, deceased, a farmer of Wayne township, who married Angelina Murphy; John L., deceased, also a farmer of Wayne township, who married Margaret Murphy; May Magdalene, deceased, who was the wife of Judge John B. Dryer; James A., deceased, who lived at Scranton, Iowa; David K., of this notice; Theodore, deceased, a farmer of Wayne township, who married Ellen Huffman; Sarah Ann, deceased, who married William A. Mack, a prominent farmer of Wayne township; Catherine, deceased, who was the wife of Dr. Joshua Owsley; and Leonidas H., deceased, a farmer of Wayne township, who married Margaret Wehr. From the above it will be noted that David K. Withrow is the only one of his father's large family now living. He was indebted to the district schools of the home community for his educational training, and resided under the parental roof until 1867. In the meantime, October 23, 1860, he had been united in marriage with Cecelia Pottinger, of Camden, Ohio, daughter of Dennis and Elizabeth (Fort) Pottinger, natives of New Jersey and early settlers of Camden, where they passed the greater part of their lives in agricultural pursuits, and died. They had six children: Mary; Margaret, a resident of Ashmore, Ill.; Hiram, who lives at West Elkton, Ohio; Grant, a resident of Seven Mile, Ohio; Hetty; and Cecelia, who became Mrs. Withrow, a resident of Seven Mile, Ohio. Five children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Withrow: Agnes, who married Christ Heater, of Wayne township; Val, who married Annie Brosey and lives at Hamilton, Ohio; Hetty Ann, who married Thomas Lewis; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of John Stonebraker, born at Millville, Ohio, and was employed by the Champion Coated Paper company of Hamilton for past twenty years, and resided at Overpeck, where he and Mrs. Stonebraker had a fine and attractive home; Mr. Stonebraker passed away at Christ hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 28, 1919; and Mark L., a painter of Cincinnati, who married Lillie Schulthale. In 1867, David K. Withrow went to Marion county, Iowa, where he secured a farm of 192 acres. This was new land, abounding with wild game, and during the six years that he spent in developing his property Mr. Withrow found plenty of opportunity to try his skill as a hunter. Subsequently he went to Warrensburg, Mo., where he was engaged in teaming for three years, and then moved on to Alton, Iowa, where he followed the same line for one year. The call of the scene of his boyhood, however, brought him back to

Butler county, and for eight years he resided on Eli Marks' farm in Wayne township, then moving to West Elkton, which was his home for one year. Again going back to Wayne township, he spent a short period there and then took up his residence at Hamilton for eight years. Since 1904, Mr. Withrow has resided with his daughter, Mrs. Stonebraker, at Overpeck. Mr. Withrow belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and during his more active years took a leading part in its movements. His wife, who is deceased, belonged to the Presbyterian church, while Mrs. Stonebraker is an adherent of the faith of the Reformed denomination. Politically, Mr. Withrow is a Democrat. Despite his eighty-six years, he is well preserved in both mind and body, and his memory remains keen. He is widely known in Butler county and is highly respected as one of the men who have contributed to the growth and development of this fertile and prosperous section of the Miami valley.

John T. Withrow was born at Seven Mile, Ohio, September 19, 1882, a son of Albert and Emma (Brooks) Withrow, the former born near Cotton Run, and his wife near Four Mile. Both the families of Brooks and Withrow were early settlers of the Miami valley and have watched the country develop from a frontier outpost to an agricultural center. After marriage Albert Withrow and his wife located on a farm near Seven Mile which he farmed all his life and eventually passed away there leaving his widow on the old homestead. Their union was blessed with the following children: W. B.; Susan, now Mrs. Arthur Mendenhall; Ella, now Mrs. Hunt; Jennie; John T., the subject of this biography; Anna, now Mrs. Bell; and Eliza. John T. Withrow became imbued with the elements of knowledge at the common schools of Nine Mile, Ohio, after which he began farming on his father's property. Following his marriage he moved to the old Black homestead of 112 acres in Reily township and here he has resided since that date. Beyond getting all out of his farm which is possible by industry and careful husbandry and making all improvements consistent with the march of progress, he has taken great pride in breeding fine Duroc Jersey hogs. He was very active in war work with a resultant success. Politically he is a Republican, but leans towards the Progressive wing. In 1905, he married Miss Nellie R. Black, daughter of Elias and Lucinda Black. To them have been born three children: Robert, aged thirteen; Marjorie, aged ten; and Ely, aged five.

William H. Witters. The call of the soil appeals strongly to some men, but it is not always that an individual can make a success of farming operations when all of his former training has been along entirely different lines. In the case of William H. Witters, however, his versatility has been displayed, for following a long period of employment in a large Dayton iron works, he has taken up agricultural work with the best of prosperity and is now comfortably and contentedly situated on a valuable property on Brown's Run, near Middletown. Mr. Witters was born in the city of Dayton, in 1870, a son of John B. and Matilda (Zimmerman) Witters, the former born in the northern part of Montgomery county, Ohio, in 1848, and the latter in Butler county, this state, in 1847. His great-

JAMES C. WOOD AND FAMILY

grandfather was Conrad Witters, who emigrated from Germany to America at about the time of the Revolutionary war, in which he participated, and following the close of that struggle settled down in New York State, where he passed the remainder of his life. His son was William H. Witters, who left New York to seek a home in the newly opened west, settling in Montgomery county, Ohio, where he passed the remainder of his life, and it was in that community that John B. Witters was born, reared and educated. John B. Witters, during his earlier years, farmed as had his father and grandfather before him, but subsequently became interested in business affairs, and in order to carry out his projects moved to Dayton, where he completed his career. His son, William H. Witters, attended the public schools there, and likewise took a private course in the district schools while assisting the teacher with the school work. When he started upon his career it was as an employee of the Dayton Malleable Iron works, in the service of which concern his industry and fidelity brought him advancement to the post of shipping clerk, and for sixteen years he continued in the employ of the same company. For a long time Mr. Witters had thought over the advisability of engaging in farming, for there was agricultural blood in his veins and he had the true inclinations of a husbandman. Eventually the call proved too strong to be longer resisted, and he accordingly invested his savings in a farm at West Middletown, on Brown's Run, where he has since been profitably engaged in the pursuits of the soil. While he carries on operations as a general farmer, he has also had decided success as a tobacco grower, and in both connections is adjudged as a thoroughly informed man, who makes a study of his business and who carries it on industriously and intelligently. He was married in 1890 to Miss Anna Dougherty, daughter of Solomon Dougherty, who died in 1903, leaving two children: Fidella, who is deceased; and Nina, now Mrs. Lester Simms, of Dayton. Mr. Witters was again married June 14, 1906, when he united with Miss Daisy M. Mink, daughter of Richard and Hannah (Mills) Mink, of Warren county, Ohio, the Mink family having come originally from West Virginia. The great-grandfather was a freighter by occupation and hauled freight from West Virginia to Cincinnati. He lost his life by drowning while trying to drink from the river. The grandfather of the Minks died in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Witters are members of the Primitive Baptist church. In his political views Mr. Witters is inclined to be liberal, but, everything else being equal, gives his support to the candidates of the Democratic party.

James Cherry Wood. A record for steadfastness of purpose and continuous service under employers is that of James Cherry Wood, who, during thirty-five years, has had but two employers. His entire career has been passed in the steel industry and at this time this skilled, industrious and reliable mechanic is superintendent of the cold roll department at the American Rolling Mill company's plant at Middletown. Mr. Wood was born at McKeesport, Pa., February 10, 1873, a son of Samuel S. and Sarah Jane (Cherry) Wood, the former of whom resides at Middletown, while the latter passed away

at Wellsville, Ohio, in 1908. There were seven children in the family: James Cherry; Laura Belle, the wife of John Lamb, of McKeesport, Pa.; Joseph, of Chester, W. Va.; Mahala, the wife of Charles Pinkerton, of Wellsville, Ohio; Albert, also a resident of that city; Nelson, of Middletown; and May, the wife of Norris Malone, of Wellsville. James Cherry Wood was educated in the public schools of McKeesport, Pa., and was still a mere lad when he became identified with the steel industry. He worked himself up through various positions at the plant at McKeesport and remained with that concern until 1910, at which time he came to Middletown to become foreman in the cold roll department, a position which he has retained to the present time. Not only is Mr. Wood one of the trusted men of the plant, but he is also extremely popular with the men under his charge, who have found him a just superintendent, conservative and kindly, and a good friend and excellent adviser, one who does not ask others to do what he will not himself undertake. His interest in the business and his knowledge thereof was rewarded in 1918, when he was awarded a $25 prize by the committee in charge for a suggestion having to do with the work of the annealing department, his being the best suggestion offered. Mr. Wood is a Republican in politics, fraternizes with the Odd Fellows, and is a member of the United Brethren church. He was married October 20, 1903, to Lillie, daughter of Jacob and Jane (Russell) Schmidt, of McKeesport, Pa., where the mother still resides, the father having passed away July 21, 1912. There were seven children in the Schmidt family: Lillie, who became Mrs. Wood; Jennie, the wife of William Naser, of McKeesport; Annie, the wife of William Gillman, of that city; Lizzie, who is Mrs. Harry Blair, of Philadelphia; Mollie, the wife of Joe Terwilliger, also residing in McKeesport, Pa.; Samuel, who is deceased; and Willie, who makes his home with his mother. To Mr. and Mrs. Wood there has been born one daughter: Viola Jane, born at Wellsville, Ohio, December 7, 1906, who is now attending the public schools. She is a miss of charm and attractiveness and has much musical talent, being a pleasing performer on the piano. Mrs. Wood is a member of the Rebekahs and is active in the work of the United Brethren church. In 1915, Mr. Wood built one of the handsome and attractive homes of Middletown, located on Crawford street, and this has been the scene of numerous social gatherings, for Mr. and Mrs. Wood are very popular and hospitable.

William Woolensnyder. The man in business who exerts himself to the utmost at all times to provide the best quality of products at most reasonable price and is always mindful of the best interests of the trade invariably meets with success. This principle does not apply solely to any particular line of human endeavor, but to all lines in which the wishes of the public must be satisfied. Also it might be stated that service has become a most important factor in the upbuilding of most lines of business and those who are in position to provide the best of accommodations generally become recognized as leaders in their industry. It is because of the fact that he has always shown the greatest solicitude for the best interests of

the public and has never made promises which he has been unable to fulfill that William Woolensnyder, prominent cigar manufacturer of Millville, Butler county, Ohio, has been such an eminent success. He has always believed in conducting his business along the most improved lines and this naturally means that he has made service a decided feature. It is said of him that his chief purpose is to give full value and this accounts for the fact that the brands of cigars he manufactures have become so popular. As indication of the superior quality of these cigars it is said that once a customer is attracted he invariably becomes a regular devotee to the particular brands manufactured by Mr. Woolensnyder. From small beginnings the business has grown to great magnitude with every indication that the future will be even brighter than the past. A native of Millville, Butler county, Ohio, born August 14, 1862, and the son of Frank and Serma (Murphy) Woolensnyder, he was of a family of six children, the others being: Frank, Charles, George, Samuel and Hannah, a half sister. The father was born in France and his wife in Indiana. They were married in Millville and settled there. William Woolensnyder attended the schools of Millville and subsequently learned the cigar business. He manufactures the well-known brands Pen-Mar, Little Havanas, etc., and they are distributed largely in Millville, Hamilton and nearby communities. The business has undergone uniform and consistent growth within the last year and this is due in large measure to the ability of Mr. Woolensnyder to maintain the same high quality of his offerings at all times. Early in his career as a manufacturer of cigars he achieved an enviable reputation for the excellent quality of his products and he is doing all in his power to perpetuate this proud distinction. Personally, he is popular with the trade and has a thorough knowledge of every phase of the cigar business. It may be safely assumed that any cigar offered for sale which bears the trademark of Mr. Woolensnyder is the best that can be had for the money. Because of his long association with the cigar business he is an excellent judge of quality in tobacco and quotes prices for his offerings which are attractive to the public. In addition to being an enterprising business man he is also a domestic man. His wife was Miss Lilly Johnson, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Johnson. They have one daughter, Marguerite, who married Earl Shaw, and is the mother of two children, Eileen and Earl, jr. In politics Mr. Woolensnyder is a Democrat.

J. O. Wyle, one of the substantial merchants of Bethany, Ohio, where he is engaged in the general mercantile and agriculture implement business, was born May 4, 1880, on a farm near Bethany, Liberty township, Butler county, Ohio, a son of Luke and Fannie (Allen) Wyle, both natives of this county. Luke Wyle was the son of William Wyle, who was born in Maryland but emigrated to this county about 1835. This was before the day of modern transportation, so this hardy pioneer accomplished the journey on horseback, locating first in the northern part of the state, but soon moved to a farm two miles west of Bethany, where he lived many years and later in life moved to Hughes, Ohio, where he died in 1904. His son,

Luke, the father of the man whose name heads this biography, early became interested in farming in this vicinity, also the buying and shipping of live stock, at which vocation he spent the greater part of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Luke Wyle now make their home with their son, J. O. Wyle. The subject of this review became imbued with the early principles of knowledge in the common school at Bethany and later in the high school at Mason, Ohio, in which institution he was graduated in 1900. March 1, 1901, he launched himself into mercantile affairs with energy and foresight. As a beginning he bought the small stock of general merchandise owned by Frank Binkley of Bethany and became so favorably known for his honest, upright business principles that in 1904 he moved to the K. of P. building, which is a storeroom 30x75 feet. This initial success only spurred him to further effort and in 1915 purchased a lot and erected a two-story building 36x70 feet in which to conduct an implement and feed business in connection with his other general merchandise business. In the succeeding year realizing that even this was inadequate to the demands of his rapidly expanding business he added fifty feet in length to the building, with the result that he now conducts one of the largest general mercantile businesses in the county. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason, being a member of the Scottish Rite and Shrine of Cincinnati and belonging to the Knights Templar Chapter, Council and Blue lodge of Masonry at Hamilton. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias of Bethany. In politics Mr. Wyle is a Democrat and has been accorded recognition by his fellow-citizens by selection as clerk of the township from 1908 to 1918. He was united in marriage to Miss Ethel G. Borden of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1912.

John H. and Lydia A. Yager. Among the well known and highly esteemed ladies of Butler county, one who by her many acts of Christian charity and by a character that has attracted to her countless friends, has won a place in the affection and respect of the people of her community, is Mrs. Lydia A. (Rush) Yager, who resides at Jacksonboro. Mrs. Yager is a member of a well-known family, comes of excellent ancestry on both sides, and is a daughter of Jackson and Eliza Ann (Thomas) Rush, and a great-niece of the late Joseph Kelly, who was a wealthy pork packer of Middletown some years ago. Various members of the family have been prominent in a number of lines of endeavor. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Yager were Moses and Rachael (Kelly) Rush, who came to Ohio at an early day from Washington county, Pa., and took up a claim of 160 acres of land from the United States Government, continuing to live thereon engaged in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of the following seven children: Rachael, who became the wife of John Ross; Kezzie, who married Tom Imes; Cynthia, who married John Allen; Mary, who became the wife of Ozra Bates; Lydia, who became the wife of John Kelley; Jacob, who married Rachael Marsh; and Jackson, the father of Mrs. Yager. Jackson Rush was born in Ohio, and was married January 1, 1851, at Camden, this state, to Eliza Ann Thomas, also a native of Ohio. To their union there were born the

following children: William, deceased; Thomas, a resident of Indiana; Jackson P., who is engaged in extensive agricultural operations on the Oxford State road; Mrs. Lydia A. Yager, of this review; and one child who died in infancy. Lydia A. Rush received a public school education and resided with her grandmother until the time of her marriage, January 6, 1870, to John H. Yager. Mr. Yager was a veteran of the Civil war, in which he had worn the Union blue for three years as a private of the 12th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and on his return from that struggle opened a blacksmith shop at Jacksonboro, which he continued to conduct successfully until his last illness, his death occurring November 26, 1917. He was a man of sterling integrity, who was highly respected in his community and who was a public-spirited and useful citizen. He and Mrs. Yager became the parents of: Anna, who died in infancy; Charles, who was a popular educator in the public schools, died at the age of twenty-three years; Dr. Calvin, who was a dental practitioner at Paola, Kans., and died when twenty-eight years old; Mary, who died when twenty-four years old; and Eleanor, a kindergarten teacher for some years, who in 1908 was married to Charles Schwab and now resides on a farm near Jacksonboro. All of the children were given excellent educational advantages and had taken places of established prominence in their communities, and the loss of those who have passed away was a great shock to their mother, who, however, has borne this sorrow, and that occasioned by the death of her husband, with true Christian patience and fortitude. Mrs. Yager, who resides on the homestead at Jacksonboro, is a woman of numerous attainments, a great Bible student, a teacher in the United Brethren Sunday school. Well has she sustained the family reputation for acts of charity and in response to her actions friends have arisen to cheer her on her way, and honor and esteem have been her portion from those with whom she has come in contact through the years of an exceedingly busy and useful life.

William J. Yaw, a shearer in the employ of the American Radiator Manufacturing company, and a substantial and highly respected citizen of Middletown, was born near Cambridge, Ohio, son of John and Hester (Gallaher) Yaw. The Yaw family is well known in the vicinity of Cambridge, for the great-grandfather, Lawrence Yaw, was one of the early settlers there when he came to Ohio from New Jersey; there the grandfather, William Yaw, was reared and married a member of the Johnson family; and there his parents grew up and were married. The mother still lives there but the father died March 22, 1896. In addition to William J., they had children as follows: Angeline, wife of Creighton Hammond, John, Lewis and James, all of whom reside at Cambridge; and Hattie, wife of C. Leeper, who lives in Colorado. William J. Yaw married Elizabeth, daughter of William C. and Elizabeth (Peek) Halladay, natives of Scotland and England, respectively. Mrs. Yaw was young when her father brought the family to the United States. In Scotland he had conducted a large fruit and confectionery store, but after coming to Ohio he was a steel worker at Irondale. Both parents now live in the city of Cleveland. Mrs. Yaw has the following brothers and

sisters: John, Mrs. Emma Blue and William, all of Cleveland; Esther, Mrs. Clyde Slipper, of Hamilton, Ohio; and Georgiana, of Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. Yaw have two sons, Harold Theodore and William Floyd, both of whom attend the public schools. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Yaw built the handsome residence on Sutphin avenue, Middletown, which is the family home, and reputed to be a very hospitable one. Fraternally Mr. Yaw is a Mason and belongs also to the Knights of Pythias.

Frank B. Yingling and the Ceramic Machinery Company. The position occupied by this company in manufacturing circles of Hamilton is one which makes evident the fact that this concern is solidly established and substantially financed and that its management is following out a policy of business integrity conducive to the gaining of industrial prestige and public confidence. This enterprise was founded in 1908, by local business men, for the manufacture of coating machines and other special machinery to be used in preparing architectural tile, and the business during the period of its life has occupied several locations, each of which proved inadequate to the growing demands of the business until the present modern plant was built opposite the Fair Grounds. The officers of this company are: Fred E. Goldsmith, president; A. H. Walberg, vice-president; Frank B. Yingling, secretary and treasurer. The business has enjoyed a healthy and continuous growth, gradually working its way to a place among Hamilton's important industries.

A more recent concern, which, in its personnel is largely the same as the business above mentioned, is The Columbia Machine Tool company, also of Hamilton. This business was founded in 1917, and its list of officials includes Fred E. Goldsmith, president; E. S. Rich, vice-president; and Frank B. Yingling, secretary and treasurer; while E. G. Ruder, Mrs. S. J. Sorg, A. Walberg and others are stockholders. The Columbia Machine Tool company's product consists of a line of shapers, in addition to which the company handles a good deal outside work. In 1917 was erected the present modern plant, located on Fair Grove avenue, Hamilton, a well-equipped structure of brick, 66x200 feet, in which are employed from forty-five to fifty men. The concern has an excellent reputation for competent and expeditious filling of contracts and is a decided asset to the manufacturing life of Hamilton. During and since the close of the Great war, this plant has been turning out some work for the United States Government. Its officers are local men who have their homes at Hamilton and whose interests are largely confined to this city, and who therefore take a pride in the business and its product that could not be felt by outsiders whose backing would be merely of the order of a monetary investment.

William E. Young. The career of William E. Young, one of the highly esteemed residents of Collinsville, now retired, presents an example of diversified activity in many fields of endeavor and of versatile gifts of a business character finding expression in the founding and conduct of numerous enterprises. Mr. Young's activities have invaded widely diverse fields of commercial endeavor, in all of which his abilities have served to gain him a full measure of

success, and his life has been a full and honorable one, culminating in the winning of a competence for his declining years. He was born in Preble county, Ohio, July 4, 1845, a son of William Young, a native of Pennsylvania, who was but a lad when brought by his parents to Milford township, Butler county. The community at that time was practically a wilderness and William Young grew up amid pioneer surroundings, depending upon the primitive district schools for his education. He married Margaret White, of South Carolina, and following their union they went to Preble county, Ohio, where Mr. Young accumulated a property of 240 acres and passed the rest of his life in farming, dying at the age of sixty-one years. He was an industrious and God-fearing man, a member of the Presbyterian church, and a staunch Republican in his later years, having been originally a Whig. Mrs. Young died in 1847. They were the parents of twelve children: Abram, who died at the age of nineteen years; Samuel, who died aged thirty; Mary, aged forty; Alexander, aged eighty-eight; David, aged forty-five; Sarah, aged thirty-five; James, aged eighty-three; Cornelia, February 16, 1919, as the wife of Reuben Jacoby; Andy, in 1863; Frank, deceased; William E.; Frank's twin; and Elizabeth, widow of William B. Hauk, of Indianapolis, Ind. William E. Young attended the district schools of Preble county and also spent one term in the public school at Seven Mile, and resided on the old home place until he was fifteen years of age. He and his brothers farmed the homestead for one year, and another property east of Somerville for two years, and when but eighteen years of age, in 1864, Mr. Young enlisted in the Union army for service during the Civil war, becoming in 1864 a member of Company H, 167th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted at Somerville, whence he was sent to the Kenesaw valley of Virginia, and, under Colonel Moon, took part in several engagements and a number of skirmishes. He had a number of close calls during his service, but eventually came through unscathed and received his honorable discharge, in October, 1864. Upon his return, he remained with his brother David for seven years, and then went to Anderson, Ind., where for two years he was engaged in the grain business. Later he engaged in traveling through the country as a lightning-rod agent, continuing this until called home to settle the estate of his brother. He also settled the estate of his sister, and then went to Casey, Clark county, Ill., where for seven years he was engaged in the hardware business. Mr. Young then turned his attention to farming for a time in Oxford township, Butler county, but was again called to commercial affairs and for three years was engaged in the hardware and tinware business at Oxford. His health failing, he was compelled to retire from active pursuits for a time, and, much against his nature, remained idle from 1880 to 1888. He then erected a home at Oxford and embarked in the manufacture of hand-made shoes, a business which he built up until he was employing eight men. Three years later he sold out and was again out of business for five or six years, although he did something in the way of dealing in real estate during this period. Returning to the manufacture of shoes, he continued in that business for eighteen

years, eventually disposing of his interests to A. F. Sloan. Mr. Young's next venture was the erection of dwellings at Oxford, where he owned a number of lots on Main street, incidentally making numerous improvements there. While he still retains considerable property at Oxford, he sold his house there in 1918 and moved to his present residence at Collinsville. While of late years Mr. Young has been considerably troubled by the loss of his eyesight, he is still active, alert and capable, with a splendid memory and a zest for participation in life's various activities. In the various communities in which he has resided he has been always a progressive citizen, and this was particularly apparent at Oxford, where, as a member of the city council, he fought persistently for the grading of the streets and the installation of cement sidewalks, a battle in which he eventually came out victorious. He is a staunch Republican in his political adherence, and his fraternal affiliation is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. For twenty years he has been a deacon in the Presbyterian church, and throughout his life has been active in religious work. In each of the communities in which he has lived he has gained the respect and confidence that are only granted to those whose integrity is unassailable. Mr. Young was married at Liberty, Ind., to Sophia Shellenberger, of Darrtown, Ohio, who died October 20, 1918. They were the parents of two children, both of whom died young.

Guy P. Zerfass, a well-known thresher and farmer of Morgan township, Butler county, is a son of Peter and Loretta (Pool) Zerfass. He was born June 12, 1874, on the old Joseph R. Symmes' place, three miles west of Hamilton, Ohio. His father was born in Germany, and his mother in Hamilton county, Ohio. His parents first lived on the Symmes' farm, and later moved to Morgan township, where they still reside and to them have been born these children: Guy P.; Mary and Emma who are married; and Leoli. When sixteen years old, Peter Zerfass came to America and settled in Hamilton. Guy Zerfass' education was received in the school of Shandon, Ohio. After finishing his courses there, he turned his attention and efforts to farming, and after his marriage, moved to a farm in Morgan township, which he now cultivates. It is an extensive place, totaling 200 acres. Mr. Zerfass is a thresher and is an expert in handling and raising grains. During the recent war, he was appointed by the government a member of the grain conservation division, and was given charge of this district, and rendered the government valuable service in the carrying out of his many duties, which made possible the saving of much grain. In 1901, Mr. Zerfass married Stella Symmes, a daughter of Joseph Symmes who resided near Hamilton, and to them were born the following children: Aaron P., Harold C., Azalia L. The family belongs to the Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Zerfass were keenly interested in all lines of patriotic endeavor during the recent war. Mr. Zerfass is a member of the Republican party.

David Ziegler. Many are the men who have attained to the age of sixty-seven years, but few bear so few scars of their contact with life as does David Ziegler, who for more than thirty years has

been a resident of Hanover township. His career has been passed in an atmosphere of contentment on his country estate, where he has won prosperity through intelligent and practical application of unswerving industry in his agricultural operations, and at the same time he has impressed his fellow-citizens as a man of integrity and honor. Mr. Ziegler was born near Millville, Ohio, February 11, 1852, a son of John and Julia Ann (Axley) Ziegler, the former of Pennsylvania and the latter of Butler county, Ohio. John Ziegler was a son of Samuel Ziegler, and when seven years of age was brought by the latter to Butler county, Ohio, the family driving through from Pennsylvania in a wagon and consuming six weeks in finishing their journey. In their new locality they secured wild land and built a cabin, and there the grandparents rounded out their careers as honorable farming people of Hanover township. John Ziegler had little opportunity to secure educational training, as his labors were needed on the home place, but he made the most of his chances and through self-teaching became a well-informed man. Reared to agricultural pursuits, his entire life was passed amid rural surroundings and his industrious and well-directed labor was rewarded by the gaining of a satisfying competency. He was a Democrat in his political views, but did not seek public preferment. Mr. Ziegler died at the age of forty-seven years, while his widow survived him until reaching the age of seventy-three. They were the parents of these children: Samuel, retired farmer of Milford township; Jacob, who died in Ross township as a farmer; John, who is deceased; Susan, and David, of this notice; Elizabeth, Julia and Sarah are deceased. David Ziegler, like his father, had only a limited education in his youth, as he also was forced to work hard in his boyhood. However, he secured the rudiments of learning in the home district schools, and to these he has since added by home study, much reading and keen observation, so that today he is a well-informed man on a variety of important subjects. He continued to reside under the parental roof until reaching the age of twenty-two years, at which time he was married to Susan Snavely, who was born near McGonigle, Ohio, a daughter of Henry Snavely. Mrs. Ziegler's father, who is now deceased, was a native of Germany who in young manhood came to the United States and for a number of years was engaged in farming in Milford township. To Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler there have been born the following children: Mary E., deceased; Anna, who is unmarried and resides with her parents; Nellie, the wife of James Dingfelder, of Oxford township; and Susan M., Ollie, Rilla and David jr., all residing with their parents. After his marriage, Mr. Ziegler lived on Indian creek, near Millville, for seven years, and then went to the Smiley place, which was his home for seventeen years. In 1888, he bought his present home in Hanover township, the old Elliott place, of 120 acres, where he now has splendid, attractive and valuable improvements. The land is under a high state of cultivation, and here he successfully carries on general farming, with some dairying. He has shown himself a practical farmer of modern ideas who is keeping well abreast of the movements being made in his calling and who applies his work intelli-

gently and makes it pay him generously. He is a Democrat, and as a citizen bears an excellent reputation in his community. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, the enterprises of which he supports liberally.

John W. Zimmerman. One of the prominent and influential citizens of the northeastern part of Butler county is John W. Zimmerman, who has been and is actively connected with this locality's agricultural affairs. He was born near Middletown, Butler county, Ohio, March 17, 1852, a son of Andrew and Margaret (Stump) Zimmerman, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Butler county, Ohio. Andrew Zimmerman was still a young man when he left the Dominion state and sought his fortune in the west, and after he had become settled near Middletown sent for his parents, who, however, remained only a short time and then returned to Virginia where they remained the rest of their lives. In addition to carrying on farming, Andrew Zimmerman found an outlet for his energies in contracting to build pikes, and it was he who built the first pike out of Middletown, and subsequently contracted to build two pikes in Miami county, but was suddenly taken ill and forced to return to his home, where he died in 1867. His widow being left in very modest financial circumstances, managed to rear her children properly, keep them together, and secure for them good educational advantages. John W. Zimmerman was only fifteen years of age when his father died, but he continued to attend the district school and the school at Troy, Ohio, for several years, before he settled down to his life work of farming. He has always engaged in this occupation and has made of his work something of a science, adopting those methods which experience has shown him to be productive of the best results. He carries on mixed farming as his regular business, with tobacco growing a specialty, and in both directions has been markedly successful. His property, located on Brown's Run, not far from Middletown, is productive and highly cultivated and its improvements are modern and attractive. March 8, 1877, Mr. Zimmerman was united in marriage with Catherine, daughter of Cypress and Mary (Russell) Selby, of Butler county, Ohio, and to this union there were born two children: Clara May, who died of influenza, in October, 1918, as the wife of Clifford Hill, by whom she had four children: Benjamin, deceased, Viola, Homer and Walter; and Grace, now Mrs. Bert Billett, a resident of near Middletown, with three children: Paul Edward, D. Arthur and Florence Eleanor. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman are members of the Old School Baptist church, in which Mr. Zimmerman is a trustee. His political views cause him to support the candidates of the Democratic party.